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# Paramilitary forces of India

*For police forces formerly considered paramilitary forces, see: Central Armed Police Forces and State Armed Police Forces*

Indian Armed Forces	
<div></div> <div>Triservices Crest.</div>	
Military Manpower	
Active troops	1,325,000 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Reserve forces	1,155,000 (7 <sup>th</sup> )
Paramilitary forces	1,293,300 (4 <sup>th</sup> )
Components	
Indian Army	
Indian Air Force	
Indian Navy	
Indian Coast Guard	
Paramilitary forces of India	
Strategic Nuclear Command	
History	
Military history of India	
Ranks	
Air Force ranks and insignia	
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Naval ranks and insignia	

According to the official definition adopted in 2011, "**Paramilitary Forces**" refers to three organisations which assist the Indian Armed Forces particularly closely and are led by officers of the Indian Army or Indian Navy<sup>[citation needed]</sup>. They are:<sup>[1]</sup>

- The Assam Rifles (AR) 50,000 personnel  
(led by Indian Army officers reporting to the Ministry of Home Affairs)
- The Special Frontier Force (SFF) 10,000 personnel  
(led by Indian Army officers reporting to Indian Intelligence)
- The Indian Coast Guard 10,000 personnel (29 stations)  
(usually led by Indian Navy officers and reporting to the Ministry of Defence).

The term "*paramilitary forces*" was previously used to refer to a variety of armed services that aid the operations of the law enforcement agencies of India and the Indian Armed Forces. No single official definition existed, so the term

normally included central armed police and often included state armed police.

In March 2011, at the request of the Indian Army, the Indian government authorized the Indian Army to provide definitive terminology. An extremely narrow definition of "paramilitary" was adopted which excluded services now known as the "Central Armed Police Forces" (CAPF)<sup>[1]</sup> (e.g. the Central Reserve Police Force) and services now known as the "State Armed Police Forces". The Indian government's new terminology does not necessarily coincide with the existing terminology of the states of India; for example, the state of Bihar calls its state armed police force "Military Police". It is not yet clear how (or whether) such discrepancies will be resolved.

The Rashtriya Rifles are not a paramilitary force but part of the Indian Army.

## Former usage

Paramilitary Forces was a term previously used without strict definitions and could include not only the current three forces, any of the Central Armed Police Forces and State Armed Police Forces and other organisations such as the Home Guard.

In the absence of central government terminology, many forces adopted their own terminology. In addition to the use of the word "paramilitary", other terms included Central Police Organisations (CPO), Central Paramilitary Forces (CPMF or CPF), Paramilitary Forces (PMF), and Central Police Forces (CPF).(CISF)Central Industrial Security Force The Indian Army claimed the use of such terms was motivated by self-aggrandisement and using vague terms to avoid accountability. A very limited definition of "paramilitary" was therefore introduced on the army's initiative.

## Assam Rifles

The Assam Rifles can trace their lineage back to a paramilitary police force that was formed under the British in 1835 called *Cachar Levy*. Since then the Assam Rifles have undergone a number of name changes before the name *Assam Rifles* was finally adopted in 1917.<sup>[2]</sup> Over the course of its history, the Assam Rifles and its predecessor units have served in a number of roles, conflicts and theatres including World War I where they served in Europe and the Middle East, and World War II where they served mainly in Burma. In the post World War II period the Assam Rifles has expanded greatly as has its role. There are currently 46 battalions<sup>[3]</sup> of Assam Rifles under the control of the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and they perform many roles including the provision of internal security under the control of the army through the conduct of counter insurgency and border security operations, provision of aid to the civil power in times of emergency, and the provision of communications, medical assistance and education in remote areas.<sup>[4]</sup> In times of war they can also be used as a combat force to secure rear areas if needed.

## Special Frontier Force

The Special Frontier Force (SFF) is a paramilitary unit of India. It was conceived in the post Sino-Indian war period as a guerrilla force composed mainly of Tibetan refugees whose main goal was to conduct covert operations behind Chinese lines in case of another war between the People's Republic of China and India.

Based in Chakrata, Uttarakhand, SFF is also known as the *Establishment 22*.<sup>[5][6]</sup> The force was put under the direct supervision of the Intelligence Bureau, and later, the Research and Analysis Wing, India's external intelligence agency.<sup>[7]</sup>



Special Frontier Force training

## Indian Coast Guard

The Indian Coast Guard (Hindi: भारतीय तटरक्षक) (ICG) is a branch of the Indian Armed Forces. Its mission is the protection of India's maritime interests and maritime law enforcement with jurisdiction over both territorial and international waters.

ICG was formally established on 18 August 1978 as an armed force of the Union by the *Coast Guard Act, 1978*. It operates under the *Department of Defence* of the Union Ministry of Defence.<sup>[8]</sup>

The Coast Guard works in close cooperation with the Indian Navy, Department of Fisheries, Department of Revenue (Customs) and the Central and State police forces. The ICG is usually and currently headed by a naval officer of the rank of Vice-Admiral on deputation, although one of the Director Generals (the 16th), Prabhakaran Paleri, was a Naval officer<sup>[9]</sup> on permanent secondment to the Coast Guard. Subsequent Director Generals have again all been from the Indian Navy.

## References

- [1] <http://reportmysignalpm.blogspot.com/2011/07/central-police-forces-and-state-armed.html>
- [2] The Assam Frontier Police (1883), the Assam Military Police (1891) and Eastern Bengal and Assam Military Police (1913), before finally becoming the Assam Rifles in 1917. See Sharma 2008.
- [3] See History of the Assam Rifles (<http://assamrifles.net/site/aboutus.htm>)
- [4] Sharma 2008.
- [5] [www.chushigangdruk.org/history/history11.htm](http://www.chushigangdruk.org/history/history11.htm)
- [6] The SFF became more famous within the administration as the "Establishment 22" because its first Inspector General (IG) Major Gen. Sujan Singh, a Military Cross holder and a legendary figure in the British India Army. Singh commanded the 22nd Mountain Regiment during World War II in Europe and a Long Range Desert Squadron (LRDS) in north Africa.
- [7] Bollywood Sargam - Special: Tibetan faujis in Bluestar (<http://www.bollywoodsargam.com/modules.php?name=News&file=print&sid=2813>)
- [8] <http://mod.nic.in/aboutus/welcome.html>
- [9] <http://soms.nitc.ac.in/paleri1.htm>



## Further reading



- India's Paramilitary Forces @ Bharat-Rakshak.Com ([http://www.bharat-rakshak.com/LAND-FORCES/index.php?page=shop.browse&category\\_id=2&option=com\\_virtuemart&Itemid=26](http://www.bharat-rakshak.com/LAND-FORCES/index.php?page=shop.browse&category_id=2&option=com_virtuemart&Itemid=26))

## External links

- Assam Rifles official site (<http://www.assamrifles.com/>)
  - Analysis of the PMF (<http://www.indiadefence.com/PMF.htm>)
  - An informative article on the PMF ([http://www.photius.com/countries/india/national\\_security/india\\_national\\_security\\_paramilitary\\_and\\_res~8898.html](http://www.photius.com/countries/india/national_security/india_national_security_paramilitary_and_res~8898.html))
  - Global Security article on Border Security Force (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/india/bsf.htm>)
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# Assam Rifles

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Assam Rifles	
Active	1835 – Present
Country	 India 1835-1947  India 1947-Present
Type	Paramilitary
Role	Internal security
Size	46 Battalions
Headquarters	Shillong
Motto	<i>Friends of the Hill People</i>
Commanders	
Director General Assam Rifles	Lt Gen Ranbir singh AVSM,SM

The **Assam Rifles** are one of the Paramilitary forces of India. The unit can trace its lineage back to a paramilitary police force that was formed under the British in 1835 called *Cachar Levy*. Since then the Assam Rifles have undergone a number of name changes before the name *Assam Rifles* was finally adopted in 1917.<sup>[1]</sup> Over the course of its history, the Assam Rifles and its predecessor units have served in a number of roles, conflicts and theatres including World War I where they served in Europe and the Middle East, and World War II where they served mainly in Burma. In the post World War II period the Assam Rifles has expanded greatly as has its role. There are currently 46 battalions<sup>[2]</sup> of Assam Rifles under the control of the Indian Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and they perform many roles including the provision of internal security under the control of the army through the conduct of counter insurgency and border security operations, provision of aid to the civil power in times of emergency, and the provision of communications, medical assistance and education in remote areas.<sup>[3]</sup> In times of war they can also be used as a combat force to secure rear areas if needed. Since 2002 it has been guarding the India-Myanmar border as per the government policy "one border one force".



## History

### Early history

The present day Assam Rifles can trace its origins back to a paramilitary force known as *Cachar Levy* which was established by the British in 1835 in the Assam region. The Assam Rifles boast of being the oldest paramilitary force. With approximately seven hundred and fifty men, this force was formed as a police unit to protect settlements against tribal raids and other assaults as British rule slowly moved towards the north east parts of India.<sup>[2]</sup>

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### Indian Armed Forces

	
Triservices Crest.	
<b>Military Manpower</b>	
<b>Active troops</b>	1,325,000 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
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Despite problems with equipment and training, the contribution of this force in opening the region to administration and commerce was nevertheless quite significant and over time they have become known as the "...right arm of the civil and [the] left arm of the military" in the region.<sup>[2]</sup> In 1870 these existing elements were merged into three Assam Military Police battalions which were spread out in the Lushai Hills (later 1st battalion), Lakhimpur (2nd battalion) and Naga Hills (3rd battalion). A fourth battalion was later formed Imphal in 1915.<sup>[citation needed]</sup> The first non British DG of assam rifles was Col Sidhiman rai,MC

Since then the name of the force has undergone a number of changes, as have the roles that it has been required to perform. the current director general of assam rifles is Lt gen Ranbir Singh AVSM,SM who has taken charge in place of Lt gen roy

### World War I and interwar years

During World War I, men from what was then known as the *Assam Military Police* were part of the Indian forces that fought in Europe and the Middle East. Over three thousand men from the force were provided to the Gorkha regiments of the Indian Army in this time, earning seventy-six gallantry awards during the conflict including seven Indian Order of Merit awards and five Indian Distinguished Service Medals.<sup>[2]</sup> These men performed with such distinction that the name *Assam Rifles* was assigned in 1917 as recognition of their part in the war.<sup>[2]</sup> Elements of the force were also utilised in India during the war, being used to maintain internal security in order to free up troops

from the army for use overseas. During this time, the most notable action occurred in 1917 when columns of the Assam Rifles were despatched to Patna, to restore law and order in the riot-torn city.<sup>[2]</sup>

After the war the force returned to northern India where they were used to maintain security amidst growing civil unrest and disorder. In concert with the British Indian Army, they also undertook a number of expeditions into remote tribal areas along the north-east frontier and into Burma. In 1924 they were sent to Malabar, which was then still part of the Madras Presidency, to carry out operations against the Mopla rebels.<sup>[2]</sup>

## World War II

During World War II, the role of the Assam Rifles evolved once more as they were called upon to undertake even more varied tasks due to their status as both a police and military organisation. This time, however, their service would be undertaken closer to home. After the lightning Japanese advance in 1942, the Assam Rifles fought a number of independent actions behind enemy lines as the task of rear-area defence and rear-guard often fell to them during the Allies retreat into India. Later, as a large influx of refugees fled from the advancing Japanese into India, the Assam Rifles were given the task of managing and organising this mass of humanity.<sup>[2]</sup>

They also organized a resistance group on the Indo-Burmese border to counter the Japanese invasion and to harass the enemy line of communications. This group became known as "Victor Force" (or sometimes V-Force), and the nucleus of it was formed from platoons made up of men from the Assam Rifles. As part of this force, Assam Rifles platoons were used as covering forces during the latter stages of the Burma Campaign. Other elements fought in the defensive "boxes" around Kohima, whilst another, from the 4th Battalion trained as airborne troops and were dropped near the Sittang River behind Japanese lines.<sup>[3]</sup> The 1st Battalion, as part of Lushai Brigade was sent ahead of the rest of the force to provide resistance in the Chin Hills. As a testament to the performance of Assam Rifles men during the war, members of the unit received forty-eight gallantry awards. These included: 3 MBE's, 5 Military Crosses, 4 Orders of British India, 1 Indian Order of Merit, 13 Military Medals, 15 Indian Distinguished Service Medals and 7 British Empire Medals.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Postwar period

Following the end of the war the five Assam Rifles battalions became part of the civil police under the Assam Inspector General of Police.<sup>[3]</sup> After independence, however, the Indian government assigned the Assam Rifles its own Director General.<sup>[2]</sup> As the numbers of the force and the number of battalions gradually increased, the rank of the force commander was also upgraded until now it is that of Lieutenant General. The present Director General of the Assam Rifles, is Lieutenant General Ranbir Singh AVSM, SM, of the Bihar regiment.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

The role of the Assam Rifles continued to evolve when in 1950 a devastating earthquake hit the Assam region and the force was called in to assist in the reconstruction of the areas and help in the resettlement and rehabilitation of those affected by it.<sup>[3]</sup> Later the force was once again called to undertake a combat role when, during the 1962 Sino-Indian War elements were used to delay the advancing Chinese forces so that the Indian Army could establish its defence lines.<sup>[2]</sup> During this time and since then, the Assam Rifles also maintained their peacekeeping role in the northern areas of India in the face of growing tribal unrest and insurgency. In this environment the maintenance of law and order, countering insurgency and reassuring the people of the region became important tasks for the security forces and initially they fell to the Assam Rifles before the Army assumed control, and then later their experience and goodwill in the region was drawn upon in order to assist the army in conducting these tasks.<sup>[2]</sup> In recognition of the unit's skill in counter insurgency operations, three battalions were deployed on Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka between December 1988 and February 1990.<sup>[3]</sup>

Through its deployment in what has become known as the "tribal belt", the Assam Rifles have developed an ethos that is based primarily upon the notion of extending the hand of friendship with the people of the region despite the troubles that have occurred there.<sup>[2]</sup> This has resulted in their employment in a number of developmental activities in the region as they have worked to bring order and security to it. As such, their role has been further expanded to

include the provision of medical assistance and basic education, assisting in reconstruction and agriculture and handling communications in remote areas.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

From a force of five battalions in 1947, the Assam Rifles has grown substantially over the years. In 1960 there were seventeen battalions, in 1968 there were twenty-one and now there are forty-six battalions today.<sup>[3]</sup> In addition, the Force has several area HQs, a training centre that processes up to 1,800 recruits at time, and a number of logistics units.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Human rights violations

The Wikileaks diplomatic cables have recently disclosed that Indian government employees agree to acts of human rights violations on part of the Assam Rifles in the Indian north-eastern state of Manipur. The violations have been carried out under the cover of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act Governor S.S. Sidhu admitted to the American Consul General in Kolkata, Henry Jardine, that the Assam Rifles in particular are perpetrators of violations in Manipur which the very same cables described as a state that appeared more of a colony and less of an Indian state.<sup>[5][6]</sup>

## Decorations

Members of the Assam Rifles have received the following military decorations since Indian independence:

Award	Times awarded
Ashoka Chakra	3
Vir Chakra	5
Kirti Chakra	31
Shaurya Chakra	120
Param Vishisht Seva Medal	5
Ati Vishisht Seva Medal <sup>[7]</sup>	12
Sena Medal <sup>[8]</sup>	188
Vishisht Seva Medal <sup>[9]</sup>	74
Yudh Seva Medal	1
Mention in Dispatches	10

(Source: *Assam Rifles Honours and Awards* <sup>[10]</sup>).

N.B. Prior to Indian independence members of the Assam Rifles were eligible for British decorations. During World War I and World War II members of the Assam Rifles received many such awards for their actions, although these have not been included here. There have also been numerous civil awards to members of the Assam Rifles. These can be found at the source listed above.

## Rank structure

Assam Rifles Ranks	Equivalent Army Ranks	Equivalent Navy Ranks	Equivalent Air Force Ranks
Director General (Army officer on deputation)	Lieutenant General	Vice Admiral	Air Marshal
Inspector General (Army officer on deputation)	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal
Deputy Inspector General (Army officer on deputation)	Brigadier	Commodore (IN)	Air Commodore
Commandant	Colonel	Captain (IN)	Group Captain
2IC (Second In Command)	Lieutenant Colonel	Commander (IN)	Wing Commander
Deputy Commandant	Major	Lt. Commander	Sqn Leader
Assistant Commandant	Captain	Lieutenant (IN)	Flight Lieutenant
No Equivalent Rank	Lieutenant <sup>[11]</sup>	Sub Lieutenant	Flying Officer

[12][13][14][15][16][17]

## References

### Notes

- [1] The Assam Frontier Police (1883), the Assam Military Police (1891) and Eastern Bengal and Assam Military Police (1913), before finally becoming the Assam Rifles in 1917. See Sharma 2008.
- [2] See History of the Assam Rifles (<http://assamrifles.net/site/aboutus.htm>)
- [3] Sharma 2008.
- [4] See Assam Rifles Training Centre (<http://assamrifles.net/site/training.htm>).
- [7] There has been one instance of a multiple award of the AVSM to the same recipient, that is a Bar being awarded. This is included in this figure.
- [8] There have been four Bars awarded for the Sena Medal to members of the Assam Rifles. These are included in this figure.
- [9] There has been one instance of a Bar being awarded for the VSM to a member of the Assam Rifles. This has been included in this figure.
- [10] [http://assamrifles.net/site/HonorsAwards\\_AssmRifles.aspx](http://assamrifles.net/site/HonorsAwards_AssmRifles.aspx)
- [11] <http://mod.nic.in/6thCPC/PAYSERVICES-notification.pdf>
- [12] ([http://careerairforce.nic.in/career\\_opp/caropp\\_officer\\_payperks.html](http://careerairforce.nic.in/career_opp/caropp_officer_payperks.html))
- [13] (<http://bsf.nic.in/career.htm>)
- [15] [http://indianairforce.nic.in/show\\_page.php?pg\\_id=121](http://indianairforce.nic.in/show_page.php?pg_id=121)
- [16] ([http://www.persmin.nic.in/WriteReadData/SV/IPS\\_PayRules2008\\_English.pdf](http://www.persmin.nic.in/WriteReadData/SV/IPS_PayRules2008_English.pdf))

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- Sharma, A.K. (2008). "The Assam Rifles: Sentinels of the East". 16 May 2008. Retrieved 25 February 2009. Available at: <http://frontierindia.net/the-assam-rifles-sentinels-of-the-east>.

**External links**

- Assam Rifles in Global Security site (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/india/assam-rifles.htm>)
- The Assam Rifles- Sentinels of the East by Lt Col (Retd.) A.K Sam Sharma (<http://frontierindia.net/the-assam-rifles-sentinels-of-the-east>)

# Special Frontier Force

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Special Frontier Force	
<b>Founded</b>	14 November 1962 – present
<b>Country</b>	India
<b>Type</b>	special force
<b>Role</b>	Primary tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special reconnaissance,</li> <li>• Direct action,</li> <li>• Hostage rescue,</li> <li>• Counter-terrorist,</li> <li>• Unconventional warfare,</li> <li>• covert operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Size</b>	10000 active personnel
<b>Part of</b>	Ministry of Defence Indian Armed Forces
<b>Headquarters</b>	Chakrata, Uttarakhand, India
<b>Engagements</b>	Indo-Pakistani War of 1971, Operation Blue Star, Operation Cactus, Operation Pawan, Kargil War (1999), Operation Rakshak
Aircraft flown	
<b>Helicopter</b>	HAL Dhruv, HAL Chetak, HAL Cheetah, HAL Lancer, Mi-17V-5
<b>Transport</b>	Gulfstream III, IAI Astra 1125

The **Special Frontier Force (SFF)** is a paramilitary special force of India created on 14 November 1962. Its main goal originally was to conduct covert operations behind Chinese lines in the event of another Indo-China war.

The SFF came to be known as 'Establishment 22' due to its first Inspector General, Major General (Retd.) Sujan Singh Uban of Indian Army,<sup>[1]</sup> who used to be commander of 22 Mountain Regiment during World War II,<sup>[1]</sup> a Military Cross holder and a legendary figure in the British India Army. Singh commanded the 22nd Mountain Regiment during World War II in Europe and a Long Range Desert Squadron (LRDS) in North Africa.

Based in Chakrata, Uttarakhand,<sup>[2]</sup> the force was put under the direct supervision of the Intelligence Bureau, and later, the Research and Analysis Wing, India's external intelligence agency.<sup>[3]</sup>

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## History

Ethnic Tibetans have been a part and parcel of the modern Indian Army for as long as it has existed. Independent formations of Tibetan (including Ladakhi, Bön, and Sikkimese) units were to patrol and police the lands they were native to. During the time of the Great Game, the British Indian Army began to employ Tibetans as spies, intelligence agents, and even covert militia in northern India and Tibet proper.

At the time of Indian independence, the Northern Hills of India remained the most isolated and strategically overlooked territory of the subcontinent. During the 1950s, the American Central Intelligence Agency and the Indian Intelligence Bureau established Mustang Base in Mustang in Nepal,<sup>[4]</sup> which trained Tibetans in guerilla warfare. The Mustang rebels brought the 14th Dalai Lama to India during the 1959 Tibetan Rebellion.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Formation

After the Sino-Indian war and towards the end of 1962, after hectic lobbying by Intelligence Bureau (IB), the Nehru government ordered the raising of an elite commando unit and specialized mountain divisions primarily composed of Tibetan resistance fighters. Chushi Gangdruk leaders were contacted for recruitment of Khampas into this new unit. An initial strength of 5000 men, mostly Khampas were recruited at its new Mountain Training Facility at Chakrata, Dehradun.

The SFF made its home base at Chakrata, 100 km from the city of Dehra Dun. Chakrata was home to the large Tibetan refugee population and was a mountain town in the foothills of the Himalayas. Starting with a force of 12,000 men, the SFF commenced six months of training in rock climbing and guerrilla warfare. The Intelligence agencies from India and the US also helped in raising the force; namely CIA & RAW. The SFF's weapons were all provided by the US and consisted mainly of M-1, M-2 and M-3 machine guns. Heavy weapons were not provided.<sup>[1]</sup>



S.S.Uban receiving the guard of Honor at Chakrata Mountain Training Facility of SFF

Established under the direct supervision of the Prime Minister, the unit under the operational command of IB and later R&AW, was designated the Special Frontier Force (SFF), and was primarily used for conducting clandestine intelligence gathering and commando operations along the Chinese Theatre. Initial training was conducted by the CIA paramilitary officers and the IB's own special operations unit. In 1968 SFF, with the help of the Aviation Research Centre which provided airlift facilities, became fully airborne-qualified and a dedicated mountain and jungle warfare unit.

During this period, the Indian government also formed the Ladakh Scouts and the Nubra Guards paramilitary force on similar lines. SFF was later incorporated in the Special Services Bureau (SSB) of R&AW. By late 1963, inter-service rivalry led to severe criticism by the Indian Army. To prove that the SFF's worth, the Inspector General sent 120 men from the SFF for a field exercise, codenamed Garuda, with the Army. The exercise proved to be a dramatic success for the SFF and the Army was now less inclined to criticise the force. In 1964, the SFF led by the Inspector General, began its airborne training at Agra. The SFF then began its own airborne training program at Sarsawa airbase near Saharanpur. By the late 1960s, the SFF was organised into six battalions for administrative purposes. Each battalion, consisting of six companies, was commanded by Tibetan who had a rank equivalent to a lieutenant colonel in the Army. A Tibetan major or captain commanded each company, which was the primary unit used in operations. Females also participated in the force and they were in the signal and medical companies. During this time, the SFF was never used against its intended enemy, China. However, the unit did conduct limited cross-border reconnaissance operations, as well as highly classified raids to place sensors in the Himalayas to detect Chinese nuclear and missile tests.<sup>[1]</sup>

## The Organization

SFF is headed by the Inspector General (IG) who works under the supervision of Director General of Security, Cabinet Secretariat (this post is held ex-officio by the Secretary, Research and Analysis Wing) (R&AW). The current SFF force levels are around 10,000 men.

Battalions have a strength of around 900, are composed of six companies each company consisting of 123 men. There is also a force of around 700 Gorkhas in the SFF at any given time. Transport is provided by the Indian Air Force's Sarasawa based 117 Helicopter Unit *Himalayan Dragons* which provides airlift capability with its HAL Dhruvs and Mi-17Sh Transport Helicopters. ARC also provides air surveillance facilities through the Chakrata Air Base near SFF HQ.

## Training

Most training is still conducted at Chakrata, initial training lasting nine months and is similar to Indian Army training, with extensive additional courses on guerrilla tactics, mountain and jungle warfare. All commandos are parachute qualified after five jumps, with three refresher jumps every year. SFF personnels are trained in four basic areas:

- Mountain: Experts in mountain and Arctic warfare, these men are trained to survive and fight in extreme conditions. Mountain troops' skills can be called on anywhere from the Siachen Glacier to the Himalayan ranges in the east. They are also known to have trained in the famed German Alpine Guides course at the Mountain Warfare School at Mittenwald and the High Altitude Warfare School at Gulmarg reaching proficiency levels that rival the best climbers in the world.
- Amphibious: These troop's combat divers are the outfit's amphibious experts. In essence, it provides a comparable amphibious warfare capability to the SFF as the MARCOS provide to the Indian Navy. While they have overlapping mission profiles, the Special Group clearly does not have as extensively maritime roles. There is close cooperation and cross-training between its amphibious troops and the MARCOS — and a rivalry exists between them.
- Air: Air Troop is the Special Group's free-fall parachuting specialists, tasked with jumping behind enemy lines, either on their own missions or to pave the way for other squadron troops. Air Troop also employ less conventional forms of air insertion such as micro-lites and powered parachutes. For HALO/HAHO combat jumps skydivers use square-type RAM parachutes which are more maneuverable also allow for softer, controlled landings than the standard round chutes.
- Jungle warfare: Jungle operations are considered to be one of the toughest in the world and more men here fall to nature than the enemy. The Special Group's Jungle troopers are the masters in jungle craft. They are skilled at carrying out deep interdiction and search and destroy operations for extended periods of time.

## SFF operations

SFF was raised with covert operations in mind, mainly along the Indo-China border, however SFF has been fielded by R&AW and the Indian government in various covert and overt operation theatres.<sup>[1]</sup>

## China

In 1964 intelligence reports kept indicating that China was preparing to test a nuclear bomb at its Lop Nor nuclear installation in Xinjiang. On October 16, 1964 China tested a nuclear weapon in Xinjiang. It was expected but not enough details were known. Later in November 1964, the CIA launched a U2 flight out of Aviation Research Centre (ARC)'s Chabatia Air Base in Orissa, but its return turned out to be a bit of a mishap.<sup>[6]</sup> The U2 overshot the runway and got stuck in slushy ground caused by heavy rain in the monsoons.

Getting it unstuck and out of India without being noticed by the Indian press, then even much more subject to leftist influences and hence antagonistic to the USA, was another clandestine operation. This gave all concerned quite a scare and it was decided to rely on other technical means.<sup>[7]</sup> So CIA decided to launch an ELINT operation along with R&AW and ARC to track China's nuclear tests and monitor its missile launches.

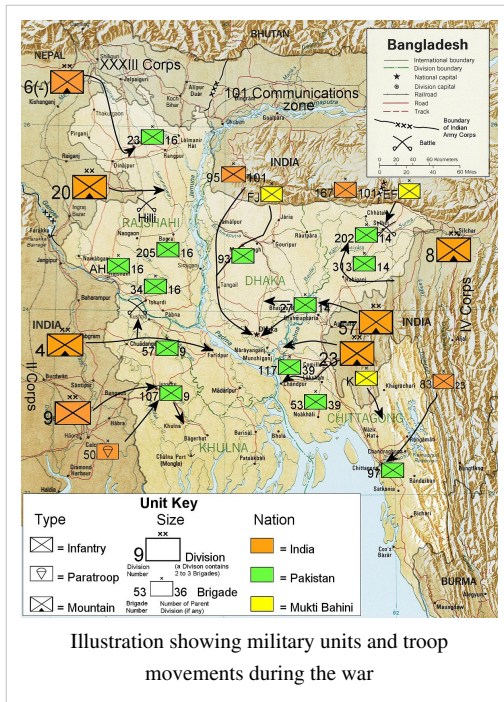
The operation, in the garb of a mountaineering expedition to Nanda Devi involved celebrated Indian climber M S Kohli who along with operatives of Special Frontier Force and CIA (most notably Jim Rhyne, a veteran STOL pilot), was to place a permanent ELINT device, a transceiver powered by a plutonium battery, that could detect and report data on future nuclear tests carried out by China.<sup>[8]</sup> The plan to install a snooping device was hatched far away in Washington D.C., in the offices of the National Geographic Society. Barry Bishop, a photographer with the magazine, interested Gen. Curtis LeMay of the US Air Force in the idea.

The actual efforts called for to place a permanent electronic intelligence (ELINT) device powered by a nuclear SNAP 19C power pack fuel cell. The first attempt to place this device on the Nanda Devi, by a Kohli-led SFF team under the cover of a mountaineering expedition failed as the team had to retreat in the face of adverse conditions and left the device in a small unmarked mountain cave after having hauled the device to just short of the 25,645 feet peak. When another Kohli-led expedition returned the following year to recover the device, it was found to be missing.<sup>[[9][10]</sup>

In the meantime the Chinese not only kept testing nuclear weapons at regular intervals but also ballistic missiles. The urgency to gather information was never greater. Another mission was launched in 1967 to place a similar device on the Nanda Kot. This mission was successful but a couple of years later another problem cropped up; snow would pile up over the antenna and render it blind. So Kohli and a SFF team were sent once again to bring it down, this time they retrieved it successfully.

In October 1967 the Chinese began testing an ICBM capable of reaching targets 6000 miles away. There was renewed urgency to find out more. So SFF mountaineers went off on one more mission in December 1969 to successfully place a gas powered device on an undisclosed mountain supposedly in Chinese controlled areas. But by the following year, the US had the first generation of the TRW spy satellites in place and did not have to rely on the old ELINT devices.

## **Indo-Pakistan Military Conflict of 1971**



SFF was extremely successful against Pakistan during the Indo-Pakistan Military Conflict of 1971. Elements of the force were sent to Mizoram in late November 1971. A strong Task Force was deployed and conducted pre-emptive strike operations in support of the Indian army formations along the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

1971 saw the SFF being used in major combat in the Indo-Pak war. Elements of the force were sent to Mizoram in late October. By November 1971, around 3000 SFF members were deployed next to the Chittagong Hill Tracts. With cross-border attacks becoming more frequent, the SFF was then ordered to attack the Chittagong Hill Tracts. For this operation, code-named 'Eagle', the SFF members were given Bulgarian AK-47s and US carbines. This operation saw the first Dapon, Tibetan equivalent of a Brigadier, to command part of the SFF task force.

With war right around the corner, the SFF was given several mission plans, including the destruction of the Kaptai Dam and other bridges. The Inspector General urged that the SFF be used to

capture Chittagong, but this was found not favourable, since SFF members did not have artillery or airlift support to conduct a mission of that magnitude. After three weeks of border fighting, the SFF divided its six battalions into three columns and moved into East Pakistan on 3 December 1971. After capturing several villages in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the Tibetans were given mortars and recoilless rifles and also two Indian Air Force Mi-4 helicopters.

With the Pakistani Lt. General A.A.K. Niazi signing the ceasefire on 17 December, the SFF had lost 56 men and nearly 190 wounded. The SFF was able to block a potential escape route for East Pakistani forces into Burma. They also halted members of Pakistan's 97 Independent Brigade and 2 Commando Battalion in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. For their bravery and courage in battle, 580 SFF members were awarded cash prizes by the Indian Govt. In 1973, the original Inspector General of the SFF was replaced and in 1975 a new rule pertaining to the SFF was issued. This prohibited the SFF from being deployed within 10 km of the Indo-Chinese border. This came about after several incidents in which SFF commandos had crossed the border and conducted unsanctioned cross-border operations.

They trained the Bangladeshi underground unit, Mujib Bahini for their secret missions. For the Bangladeshi campaign, designated *Operation Mountain Eagle*, the SFF members were issued Bulgarian AK-47's and US carbines. SFF conducted several mission, including the destruction of the Kaptai Dam and other bridges.

## Internal operations

SFF was used in combating communal riots in mid 1970s and later was used in Operation Blue Star in 1984. It was also used briefly for VIP security in late 1984 around the Prime Minister following the assassination of Indira Gandhi. Later this role fell upon the Special Protection Group.

In 1975 a new rule pertaining to the SFF was issued, this prohibited the SFF from being deployed to within 10 km of the Indo-Chinese border unless under explicit instructions. This came about after several incidents in which SFF was found to be conducting unsanctioned cross-border raids and intelligence operations. Currently, one SFF battalion is stationed in the Siachen Glacier.

## Current roles

With warming of Indo-Chinese relations, SFF has expanded out from covert operations into various other fields like counter-terrorism. The major functions of SFF in the present day scenario are as follows:

### Counter-terrorism

One Squadron is responsible for counter-terrorism duties, with a team in a constant state of alert. The four squadrons rotate through this role on a six-monthly basis. Special Group teams regularly conduct CT operations in troubled Kashmir against militants on specific intelligence inputs.

### Special Group

The Director General (DG) Security, Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) in 1982 dispatched 500 SFF operatives along with over 500 Indian Army special forces to Sarsawa for Counter Terrorist training. It is also thought that the selected troopers thereafter were sent to Israel for highly specialized training. These men formed the nucleus of an ultra-elite and highly classified new detachment, known as the *Special Group*. It is a volunteer force and persons are inducted only after a very tough probation and selection process. Alone among the 'Vikas regiments' or SFF battalions, it is not made up of Tibetans but exclusively recruits Indians volunteering from Indian Army units.

The SFF Special Group's headquarters is supported by an Intelligence and Planning wing, a Training wing and a specialist Signals Troop which is solely responsible for support operations. Having four squadrons each made up of around 100 troopers, which are further divided into four troops. Each troop has a specialized role. The Special Group has a wide range of responsibilities, each requiring specific training and disciplines.

Special Group is also the parent unit of elite National Security Guards (NSG). The NSG was raised after SG participated in Operation Bluestar. It was thought that a paramilitary force not under the Ministry of Defence should be used for counter terrorism operations internally. The NSG is thus led by an IPS officer and comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs, even though the commandos who lead operations are themselves from the army. After the formation of NSG, the Special Group is no longer directly involved in hostage rescue and counter terrorism.

### Intelligence Gathering

Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols or Pathfinders must be able to remain hidden in close proximity to the enemy for days or weeks on end. The outfit was trained to do this against the Chinese but actually used the technique to great success in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and the fields of the northern state of Punjab.

### Combat Air Control

With the emphasis on air power in modern warfare there comes a need for skilled combat air controllers, men on the ground calling in air strikes. There is usually a trooper specially trained to guide in attack aircraft for a strike, verbally or using laser designators. SFF Special Group troopers effectively demonstrated this capability during India's Kargil conflict with Pakistan in the summer of 1999.

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## Close Protection

The Special Group, along with the Special Protection Group (SPG) were the pioneers at close protection (CP) duties in India, having developed many of the protocols themselves, unique to the Indian subcontinent. Nowadays much of the VIP protection is the sole responsibility of the National Security Guards (NSG) and other specialized provincial units.




## Training Foreign Military

Over the years, the Special Group has shared their expertise with a few friendly nations like Maldives and Nepal, training their own special forces.

## References

- [3] Bollywood Sargam - Special: Tibetan faujis in Bluestar (<http://www.bollywoodsargam.com/modules.php?name=News&file=print&sid=2813>)
- [4] The Phantoms of Chittagong (<http://www.rediff.com/news/2003/jan/08spec.htm>)
- [5] India's Tibetan Troops: Histories & Rare Photographs [Archive] - Military Photos (<http://www.militaryphotos.net/forums/archive/index.php/index.php/t-37833.html>)
- [8] Spies in the Himalayas, by Kenneth Conboy and M.S. Kohli, University Press of Kansas (March 2003), ISBN 0-7006-1223-8 (<http://vayu-sena.tripod.com/other-spies-in-the-himalayas.html>)
- [9] Harish Kapadia, "Nanda Devi", in *World Mountaineering*, Audrey Salkeld, editor, Bulfinch Press, 1998, ISBN 0-8212-2502-2, pp. 254-257.
- [10] There are many theories about what happened. Most of likely ones are that the device rolled off the mountain and is now lodged at the bottom of the glacier. More imaginative theories speculate that the supposedly indestructible nuclear power pack with a highly toxic plutonium isotope in its core, with a half-life of many thousand years is inching its way into the Ganges. Another plausible theory is that another team of Indian mountaineers came up furtively early the next season and spirited away the device for Indian nuclear scientists to study. Many Americans lean towards this, and with the legendary spymaster, RN Kao in the picture anything was possible.

# Indian Coast Guard

Indian Coast Guard <i>Bharatiya Tataraksaka</i>	
 <p>Indian Coast Guard insignia</p>	
<b>Active</b>	18 August 1978 — present
<b>Country</b>	 India
<b>Type</b>	Coast Guard
<b>Size</b>	Active duty: 5,440 personnel
<b>Part of</b>	Ministry of Defence
<b>Motto</b>	वयम् रक्षामः (hindi: <i>We Protect</i> )
Commanders	
<b>Director General</b>	Vice Admiral Anurag Gopalan Thaplial, AVSM
Insignia	
<b>Ensign</b>	
Aircraft flown	
<b>Helicopter</b>	HAL Chetak HAL Dhruv
<b>Patrol</b>	Dornier Do 228

The **Indian Coast Guard** (*Hindi*: भारतीय तटरक्षक, *Bhāratīya Tatarakṣaka*) (ICG) is the maritime Para Military Force (PMF) of the Union of India. Its mission is the protection of India's maritime interests and enforcement of maritime law with jurisdiction over the territorial waters of India, including contiguous zone & exclusive economic zone.

ICG was formally established on 18 August 1978 as an armed force of the Union (aka BSF, ITBP, CISF) by the *Coast Guard Act, 1978*. It operates under the Ministry of Defence.<sup>[8]</sup>

The Coast Guard works in close cooperation with the Indian Navy, Department of Fisheries, Department of Revenue (Customs) and the Central and State police forces.



## Mission

The Indian Coast Guard's motto is वयम रक्षामः (*Vayam Rakshamah*), which translates from Sanskrit as **We Protect**. Its missions are:<sup>[1]</sup>

- National Defence during hostilities (under the operational control of Indian Navy)
- Safety and Protection of Artificial Islands, Offshore terminals and other Installations
- Protection and assistance to fishermen and Mariners at sea
- Maritime safety, search and rescue
- Coastal Security
- Law enforcement in territorial as well as international waters
- Preservation and Protection of marine ecology and environment including pollution control
- Anti smuggling and other Customs & Preventive Operations
- Scientific data collection and support



Coast Guard Office in Kochi, Kerala



Coast Guard helicopter at Chowpatty, Mumbai

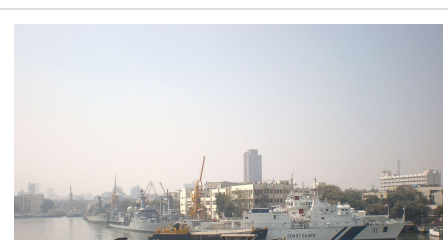
## History

The establishment of the Indian Coast Guard was first proposed by the Indian Navy to provide non-military maritime services to the nation.<sup>[1]</sup> In the 1960s, sea-borne smuggling of goods was threatening India's domestic economy. The Indian Customs Department frequently called upon the Indian Navy for assistance with patrol and interception in the anti-smuggling effort.

The Nagchaudhuri Committee was constituted with participation from the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force to study the problem. In August 1971, the committee identified the requirement to patrol India's vast coastline, set up a registry of offshore fishing vessels in order to identify illegal activity, and establish a capable and well-equipped force to intercept vessels engaged in illegal activities. The committee also looked at the number and nature of the equipment, infrastructure and personnel required to provide those services.<sup>[1]</sup>

By 1973, India had started a program to acquire the equipment and started deputing personnel from the Indian Navy for these anti-smuggling and law enforcement tasks, under the provisions of the *Maintenance of Internal Security Act*. The Indian Navy sensed that the law enforcement nature of these duties diverged from its core mission as a military service. Admiral Sourendra Nath Kohli, then Chief of Naval Staff, hence made a recommendation to the Defense Secretary outlining the need for a separate maritime service to undertake those duties and offering the Navy's assistance in its establishment. On 31 August 1974, the Defense Secretary submitted a note to the Cabinet Secretary proposing cabinet action on Admiral Kohli's recommendation.

As a result, in September 1974, the Indian cabinet set up the *Rustamji Committee*, under the chairmanship of Khusro Faramurz Rustamji, with participation from the Navy, the Air Force and the Department of Revenue to examine gaps



A coast guard ship at the Naval Dockyard  
(Bombay)



in security and law enforcement between the roles of the Indian Navy and the central and state police forces. The discovery of oil off Bombay High further emphasised the need for a maritime law enforcement and protection service. The committee submitted its recommendation for the establishment of the **Indian Coast Guard** under the Ministry of Defense on 31 July 1975. Bureaucratic wrangling followed, with the Cabinet Secretary making a recommendation to place the service under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Then prime minister Indira Gandhi overruled the Cabinet Secretary and decided to accept the original recommendation of the Rustamji Committee to place the service under the Ministry of Defense.<sup>[1]</sup>

An interim Indian Coast Guard came into being on 1 February 1977, equipped with two small corvettes and five patrol boats transferred from the Navy. The duties and functions of the service were formally defined in the *Coast Guard Act*, which was passed by India's parliament on 18 August 1978 and came into immediate effect.

Vice Admiral V.A. Kamath of the Indian Navy was appointed the founding Director General. Prime Minister Morarji Desai inspected the Guard of Honour at the service's inauguration. Vice Admiral Kamath proposed a five-year plan to develop the ICG into a potent force by 1984, but the full potential of this plan was not immediately realised due to an economic resource crunch.<sup>[2]</sup>

One of the historic operational successes of the ICG occurred in October 1999, with the recapture at high seas of a Panamanian-registered Japanese cargo ship, *MV Alondra Rainbow*, hijacked off Indonesia. Her crew was rescued off Phuket, Thailand. The ship had been repainted as *MV Mega Rama*, and was spotted off Kochi, heading towards Pakistan. She was chased by *ICGS Tarabai* and *INS Prahar* (K98) of the Indian Navy, and apprehended.<sup>[3]</sup> It was the first successful prosecution of armed pirates in over a century.

The Indian Coast Guard conducts exercises with the other coast guards of the world. In May 2005, the ICG agreed to establish liaison links with Pakistan's Maritime Security Agency (PMSA). In 2006, the Indian Coast Guard conducted exercises with its Japanese and Korean counterparts.

After the 2008 Mumbai attacks, the Indian government initiated a program to expand the ICG force, assets and infrastructure. The force is expected to be tripled between 2010 and 2019 in manpower, vessels and aircraft.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Personnel

### Coast Guard Officers

The ranks for Indian Coast Guard officers in order of increasing seniority are:<sup>[1]</sup>



Indian Coast Guard Ranks	Indian Navy Ranks	Pay Bands/Grade Pay
Assistant Commandant	Sub-lieutenant	PB-3/5400 (Entry Level)
--no equivalent--	Lieutenant	PB-3/6100
Deputy Commandant	Lieutenant Commander	PB-3/6600
Commandant (Junior Grade)	--no equivalent--	PB-3/7600
--no equivalent--	Commander	PB-4/8000
Commandant	Captain	PB-4/8700
Deputy Inspector General	Commodore	PB-4/8900
Inspector General	Rear Admiral	PB-4/10000
Additional Director General	Vice Admiral	HAG, Rs 67000-79000
Director General	Vice Admiral	Apex Scale, Rs 80000 Fixed

- Director General - post tenanted by Indian Navy officer of the rank of Vice Admiral on deputation to the Indian Coast Guard

Officers are appointed in the Coast Guard in one of four branches, as either General Duty officer, Pilot officer, Technical officer or Law officers. Lady Officers have two branches i.e. General Duty officer OR Pilot officer and serve on shore establishments/Air Stations/Headquarters. They are not deployed on board Indian Coast Guard ships.<sup>[1]</sup>

### General Duty officers

General Duty branch is the Executive branch of Indian Coast Guard. This executive branch being the biggest is sub divided as Gunnery, Navigation and direction, Signal Communication, Pollution Response and Intelligence. The Command of all ships and Establishments of Indian Coast Guard can be exercised only by the GD branch Officers. Only these executive branch officers can exercise command of any maritime operations. GD branch officers of the Indian Coast Guard are assigned operational tasks, including command of weapons systems, navigation systems, crews and vessels. Command of Coast Guard operations at sea, and the safety of crew and ships is the primary responsibility of these officers. All the District Commanders (COMDIS) and Commander of Coast Guard Region (COMCG) appointments can be exercised only by an Executive branch Officer of the Indian Coast Guard with honour



ICG offshore patrol vessel *ICGS Vishwast* visiting Kobe, Japan

### Pilot officers

Pilot officers are also GD branch officers only. They are appointed into the Air Wing of the Coast Guard. But the Air crew sailors are generally not posted on board ships they being vertically specialised in Air Arm of the service. They serve many of the Air Stations operated by the Indian Coast Guard. The Command of the Air stations are again the responsibility of Pilots being part of the General Duty Arm (excluding the short service entry CPL Holding pilots) of the Service. Indian Coast Guard pilots operate rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft from Coast Guard ships and Air Stations.

### Technical officers

Technical officers are responsible for operation of advanced technology and sensor systems on board Coast Guard vessels and aircraft, as well as on shore installations. They also command the maintenance wings of the force. Technical officers are usually required to have a graduate degree in Engineering.

### Law Officers

Law officers act as legal advisers to their respective commanders. They represent the Indian Coast Guard in legal actions filed by or against the organisation. They also perform the duties of Trial law officers in Coast Guard Courts, convened to try delinquent Coast Guard personnel.

### Enrolled Personnel

Enrolled personnel in the Coast Guard serve as either a *Yantrik* (Technician) or *Navik* (Sailor).<sup>[1]</sup>

*Yantriks* are responsible for operating and maintaining mechanical, electrical or aeronautical equipment and systems on board the Coast Guard vessels and aircraft.

*Naviks* may further serve in the General Duty or Domestic branches. The General Duty *Naviks* serve as sailors, weapons systems operators, communication specialists, divers, etc. or in specific maritime or aviation support roles. Domestic branch *Naviks* serve in roles such as stewards, cooks, etc. on board Coast Guard vessels.



All personnel are trained in operation of weapons systems in cases of emergency.

### Training

Currently, Officers of Indian Coast Guard undergo Basic Military Training at the Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala along with their Counter parts of Indian Navy. This helps in the mutual interchange of Officers among these two sister services. While the Indian Coast Guard Academy is under construction in Azhikkal, Kannur district, Kerala.<sup>[2]</sup> The Sailors of Indian Coast Guard get trained along with Indian Naval Sailors at the Indian Naval training establishment INS Chilka. All the training undertaken by Indian Coast Guard Officers and men are the same as those undertaken by Indian Naval Officers and sailors.

### Organization

#### Indian Armed Forces

 <p>Triservices Crest.</p>	
Military Manpower	
Active troops	1,325,000 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
Reserve forces	1,155,000 (7 <sup>th</sup> )
Paramilitary forces	1,293,300 (4 <sup>th</sup> )
Components	
Indian Army	

Indian Air Force	
Indian Navy	
Indian Coast Guard	
Paramilitary forces of India	
Strategic Nuclear Command	
<b>History</b>	
Military history of India	
<b>Ranks</b>	
Air Force ranks and insignia	
Army ranks and insignia	
Naval ranks and insignia	

The Indian Coast Guard operations are split into 5 regions:

- Western Region headquartered in Mumbai
- Eastern Region headquartered in Chennai
- North East Region headquartered in Kolkata
- North West Region headquartered in Gandhinagar
- Andaman & Nicobar Region headquartered in Port Blair

## Leadership

The ICG is led by the **Director General of Coast Guard**, who is an officer of the rank Vice Admiral, presently (as of February 2013), Vice Admiral Anurag G Thapliyal, AVSM.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

The ICG as of now is headed by a naval officer of the rank of Vice Admiral on deputation to the Coast Guard as a direct entry Coast Guard Officer is yet to reach the age/service to become equivalent to Vice Admiral as it is the youngest of all the all Armed Forces started in the 70's. Two of the Director Generals (the 12th and 16th), Rameshwar Singh and Prabhakaran Paleri, were career Coast Guard officers, in the sense that they were Indian Navy officers on permanent secondment to the Indian Coast Guard.<sup>[2]</sup> DG Rameshwar Singh had spent twenty years in the Indian Navy, before he was seconded permanently to the Indian Coast Guard. His tenure lasted for six months, between March 2001, and September 2001. Dr. Prabhakaran Paleri was commissioned in the Indian Navy in 1969, and permanently seconded to the Coast Guard in 1981.<sup>[3]</sup> His tenure lasted for five months, from February 2006 to August 2006.<sup>[4]</sup>

Each coast guard region is led by an Inspector General (IG) or a Deputy Inspector General (DIG). The IG and DIG are appointed as Coast Guard Officers, often graduates of the Indian Defence Service Colleges, though not necessarily.

Each of the regions is further divided into multiple districts, typically covering a coastal state or a union territory.

## Establishments

By the end of 2012, the Indian Coast Guard is on track to operate:<sup>[5]</sup>

- 42 Coast Guard Stations
- 5 Coast Guard Air Stations
- 10 Coast Guard Air Enclaves

## Equipment

### Surface vessels

Ships belonging to the Indian Coast Guard are prefixed **ICGS**, abbreviation for *Indian Coast Guard Ship*.

Ship Class	Type	Origin	Displacement	In service	Notes
<b>In Service:</b> 93 ships					
Samar class	Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel	India	2005 tons	6	
Vishwast class	Offshore Patrol Vessel	India	1800 tons	3	
Vikram class	Offshore Patrol Vessel		1220 tons	5	2 Decommissioned
Samudra class	Pollution Control Vessel(PCV)	India	4300 tons	2	[6]
Rajshree class	Inshore patrol vessel	India	275 tons	7	1 more under construction.
Rani Abbaka class	Inshore patrol vessel	India		2	3 more under construction.
Sarojini Naidu Class	Extra Fast Patrol Vessel (XFPV)	India	270 tons	7	
Priyadarshini Class	Inshore Patrol Vessels		215 tons	8	
Tarabai Class	Inshore Patrol Vessels	India/Singapore	236 tons	6	
Rajhans Class	Seaward Defence Boat		203 tons	2	3 decommissioned
Jijabai Class	Inshore Patrol Vessels	India/Japan	181 tons	0	7 decommissioned
Pulicat Class	Patrol Boat	USSR	80 tons	0	5 decommissioned
L&T fast interceptor crafts	Interceptor Boat	India	90 tons	2	34 more from initial order. 18 follow on order.
ABG fast interceptor crafts	Interceptor Boat	India/Australia	75 tons	13	
Bharati class interceptor boat	Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV)	India	65 tons	1	Total 15 ordered.
AMPL Class	Interceptor Boat	India/UK	44 tons	9	1 transferred to Mauritius
Swallow Craft Class	Inshore Patrol Craft	South Korea	32 tons	5	
Mandovi Marine Class	Patrol craft	India	10 tons		5 status unknown
Timblo Class	Interceptor Craft	India	7 tons	10	
Bristol Class	Interceptor Craft		5.5 tons	4	
Vadyar Class	Interceptor Craft		2.4 tons	8	
Griffon/Grse Class	Air Cushion Vehicle (Hovercraft)	UK	N.A.	10	
<b>Under Construction/Order:</b> 156 ships <sup>[7]</sup>					

Samar class	Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel	India	2230 tons	1	
GSL Class	Advanced Offshore Patrol Vessel	India	2400 tons	6	2 Keel laid
Samudra class	Pollution Control Vessel(PCV)	India	3300 tons	1	
Rajshree class	Inshore patrol vessel	India	275 tons	1	8 ordered, 7 commissioned
Rani Abbaka class	Inshore patrol vessel	India		3	5 ordered, 2 commissioned
HSL class	Inshore patrol vessel	India		8	
Griffon Class	Air Cushion Vehicle (Hovercraft)	UK	N.A.	7	12 ordered, 5 commissioned
	Air Cushion Vehicle (Hovercraft)	UK	N.A.	6	As per Griffon's website, status unknown,
L&T fast interceptor crafts	Interceptor Boat	India		34+18	36+18 ordered, 2 commissioned
Cochin Fast Patrol Vessels	Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV)	India		20	2 launched
Bharati class interceptor boat	Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV)	India	65 tons	14	15 ordered, 1 commissioned
Timblo class patrol craft	Patrol craft	India	15 tons	30	

### Aircraft inventory

The Coast Guard operates a fleet of 38 Dornier Do 228 maritime surveillance aircraft, 9 HAL Dhruv and 18 HAL Chetak utility helicopters.

## References

[1] [http://nausena-bharti.nic.in/pay\\_perks\\_officer.php](http://nausena-bharti.nic.in/pay_perks_officer.php)

[www.indiancoastguard.nic.in/indiancoastguard/cgpersonnel/ICG%20Uniform.pdf](http://www.indiancoastguard.nic.in/indiancoastguard/cgpersonnel/ICG%20Uniform.pdf)

## External links<sup>[1]</sup>

- Official Indian Coast Guard site (<http://www.indiancoastguard.nic.in/>)
- Ministry of Defence site (<http://www.mod.nic.in>)
- Indian Coast Guard orders six Griffon hovercraft (<http://www.griffonhoverwork.com/posts/16>)
- Indian Coast Guard Recruitment Website (<http://www.joinindiancoastguard.gov.in/>)

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[1] [http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/coastguards-stateofart-interceptor-vessel-commissioned/article4610289.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl\\_home](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/coastguards-stateofart-interceptor-vessel-commissioned/article4610289.ece?homepage=true&ref=wl_home)

# Central Armed Police Forces

According to the naming convention adopted in 2011,<sup>[1]</sup> the **Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)** are the following eight police forces of the central government of India:

- Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF): The largest of the Central Armed Police Forces. 325,000 personnel (245 battalions)<sup>[2][3]</sup> The Central Reserve Police include the Rapid Action Force (RAF), a 10 battalion anti-riot force trained to respond to sectarian violence, and the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (COBRA), a 10,000 strong anti-Naxalite force.<sup>[4]</sup>
- Border Security Force (BSF) for manning the land borders of the country, except in the mountains. 240,000 personnel (186 Battalions)<sup>[5][6][7]</sup> (Headed by Indian Police Service Officer)
- Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) for manning the border with China on the Himalayan portion of the Tibetan plateau. 90,000 (55 Battalions)<sup>[8][9][10]</sup> (Headed by Indian Police Service Officer)
- Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) for guarding the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan Borders. 82,000 personnel.<sup>[11]</sup>
- Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). 200,000 personnel<sup>[12]</sup> (132 Battalions)
- Railway Protection Force (RPF) known for protecting the railways of India and ensuring safety of citizens in trains.
- National Security Guards (NSG). 8636 personnel (including 1086 personnel for regional hubs<sup>[13]</sup>), an elite counter terrorist and rapid response force in India (Headed by Indian Police Service officer). The NSG also includes the Special Protection Group (SPG), whose 3,000 personnel provide protection to India's political leadership.



A member of India's  
Border Security Force.

These forces were frequently referred to as "paramilitary forces" until 2011, when the government gave new official definitions which restricted the use of that term. According to the official definition adopted in 2011, "Paramilitary Forces" refers to three organisations which assist the Indian Armed Forces particularly closely and are led by officers of the Indian Army or Indian Navy. They are [1]

- The Assam Rifles (AR) 50,000 personnel
  - (led by Indian Army officers reporting to the Ministry of Home Affairs)
- The Special Frontier Force (SFF) 10,000 personnel
  - (led by Indian Army officers reporting to Indian Intelligence)
- The Indian Coast Guard 5,400 personnel (29 stations)
  - (usually led by Indian Navy officers and reporting to the Ministry of Defence).

The term "paramilitary forces" was previously used to refer to a variety of armed services that aid the operations of the law enforcement agencies of India and the Indian Armed Forces. No single official definition existed, so the term normally included central armed police and often included state armed police.

In March 2011, at the request of the Indian Army, the Indian government authorized the Indian Army to provide definitive terminology. An extremely narrow definition of "paramilitary" was adopted which excluded services now known as the "Central Armed Police Forces" (CAPF)[1] (e.g. the Central Reserve Police Force) and services now known as the "State Armed Police Forces". The Indian government's new terminology does not necessarily coincide with the existing terminology of the states of India; for example, the state of Bihar calls its state armed police force

"Military Police". It is not yet clear how (or whether) such discrepancies will be resolved. Paramilitary Forces of India They are also compared to India's various State Armed Police Forces.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## Rank Structure

CAPF RANKS	POLICE RANKS	ARMY RANKS	NAVY RANKS	AIR FORCE RANKS
Director General (Apex Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Director General of a State Police Force	Lieutenant General (Army Commander's Scale)	Vice Admiral (FOC-in-C's Scale)	Air Marshal (AOC-in-C's Scale)
Special Director General (HAG+ Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Special Director General	Lieutenant General (HAG+ Scale)	Vice Admiral (HAG+ Scale)	Air Marshal (HAG+ Scale)
Additional Director General (Higher Administrative Grade of the IPS cadre, also available to BSF cadre likely to Available to all CAPFs)	C.P, ADG	Lieutenant General (Higher Administrative Grade)	Vice Admiral (HAG)	Air Marshal (HAG)
Inspector General	Joint C.P	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshall
Deputy Inspector General	Additional C.P, DIG	Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
Commandant	DCP/SSP	Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
Second-in-Command	DCP/SP	Lieutenant Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
Deputy Commandant	Addl.SP	Major	Lt. Commander	Sqn Leader
Assistant Commandant: Group A Gazetted Officer	DSP	Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant

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- [11] <http://egov.eletsonline.com/2013/03/guarding-the-nations-frontiers/>
- [12] <http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/govt-to-recruit-20-000-women-in-paramilitary-forces-in-3-years-105279>
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External links

 Media related to Central Armed Police Forces at Wikimedia Commons

Central Reserve Police Force

Central Reserve Police Force	
Abbreviation	CRPF(Central reserve Police Force)
<div></div>	
Central Reserve Police Force Emblem	
Motto	<i>Service and Loyalty</i>
Agency overview	
Formed	27 July, 1939
Legal personality	Governmental: Government agency
Jurisdictional structure	
Federal agency	India
Governing body	Ministry of Home Affairs (India)
Constituting instrument	Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949
General nature	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Federal law enforcement</li><li>Civilian agency</li></ul></div>
Specialist jurisdiction	
Operational structure	
Agency executive	Pranay Sahay IPS, Director General
Sectors	10

The **Central Reserve Police Force** (Devanāgarī: केंद्रीय रजिस्त्र पुलिस बल) also known as **CRPF** is the largest of India's Central Armed Police Forces. It functions under the aegis of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) of the Government of India. The CRPF's primary role lies in assisting the State/Union Territories in police operations to maintain law and order and contain insurgency. It came into existence as the Crown Representative's Police on 27 July 1939. After Indian Independence, it became the Central Reserve Police Force on enactment of the CRPF Act on 28 December

1949.

Besides Law and Order and counter-insurgency duties, the role of CRPF in the General Elections, held repeatedly during the past few years, has been very significant and vital. This is especially true for the trouble-ridden states of J&K, Bihar and in the North East. During the Parliamentary elections of September 1999, the CRPF played a major role in the security arrangements. Of late, CRPF contingents are also being deployed in UN missions.

With 220 battalions<sup>[1]</sup> and various other establishments, the CRPF is considered to be one of the largest paramilitary force in the world.<sup>[2]</sup> Nonetheless, the CRPF does not fall under the Indian government's definition of "Paramilitary Forces".

## History

- The CRPF was derived from the CRP (Crown Representative's Police) on 27 July 1939 with 2 battalions in Nimach, Madhya Pradesh. Its primary duty at the time was to protect the British residents in sensitive states of India.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- In 1949, the CRP was renamed under the CRPF Act. During the 1960s, many state reserve police battalions were merged with the CRPF. The CRPF has been active against foreign invasion and domestic insurgency.
- On 21 October 1959, Dy.S.P. Karam Singh and 20 soldiers were attacked by the Chinese Army at Hot Springs in Ladakh resulting in 10 casualties. The survivors were imprisoned. Since then, 21 October is observed as Police Commemoration day.
- The CRPF guarded the India-Pakistan Border until 1965, at which point the Border Security Force was created for that purpose.
- On 2001 Indian Parliament attack the CRPF troopers killed all five terrorists who had entered the premises of the Indian Parliament in New Delhi.
- In recent years, the Government of India has decided to follow up on recommendations of the Indian cabinet to use each security agency for its mandated purpose. As a result, the counter-insurgency operations in India have been entrusted to the CRPF.
- In 2008 a wing called Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) was added to the CRPF to counter the Naxalite movement.
- On September 2, 2009, 5000 CRPF soldiers were deployed for a search and rescue mission to find the then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy whose helicopter went missing over the Nallamalla Forest Range in Andhra Pradesh. This was the largest search operation ever mounted in India.

## Current role and strength

As of 2010, the CRPF is the largest paramilitary organisation of the country and is actively looking after the internal security of every part of India and are even operating abroad as part of United Nations peacekeeping missions. It is performing a variety of duties ranging from VIP security to election duties, from guarding of vital installations to the counter-naxal operations.

## Organisational Structure

The CRPF is headed by a Director general who is an Indian Police Service officer and is divided into ten administrative sectors, each headed by an Inspector General. Each Sector consists of one or more administrative and/or Operational Ranges, headed by an officer of the rank of Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police. Now, Group Centres are also headed by DIGs.

There are 210 CRPF battalions of approximately 1200 constables each. Each battalion is commanded by an officer designated as Commandant, and consists of seven CRPF companies, each containing 135 Men . Each company is headed by an Assistant Commandant.

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The Home Ministry is planning to increase the strength of the force by adding 35 more battalions (30,000 personnel approx.) in the coming years. Staff are recruited by the UPSC and also through deputation from IPS officers.

The Assistant Commandants are Group 'A' gazetted officers, directly appointed upon clearing an exam conducted by the UPSC which is held yearly.

## Rank Structure

CRPF RANKS	POLICE RANKS	ARMY RANKS	NAVY RANKS	AIR FORCE RANKS
Director General (Apex Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Director General of a State Police Force	Lieutenant General (Army Commander's Scale)	Vice Admiral (FOC-in-C's Scale)	Air Marshal (AOC-in-C's Scale)
Special Director General (HAG+ Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Special Director General	Lieutenant General (HAG+ Scale)	Vice Admiral (HAG+ Scale)	Air Marshal (HAG+ Scale)
Additional Director General (Higher Administrative Grade of the IPS cadre, also available to BSF cadre)	C.P, ADG	Lieutenant General (Higher Administrative Grade)	Vice Admiral (HAG)	Air Marshal (HAG)
Inspector General	Joint C.P, IG	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal
Deputy Inspector General	Additional C.P, DIG	Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
Commandant	DCP/SSP	Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
2 I/C	DCP/SP	Lieutenant Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
Deputy Commandant	Addl.SP	Major	Lt. Commander	Sqn Leader
Assistant Commandant: Group A Gazetted Officer	Assistant Commissioner of Police/DySP	Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant

Being a central Indian police agency and having high presence of Indian Police Service officers, CRPF follows ranks and insignia similar to other police organisations in India.

## The Rapid Action Force

The Rapid Action Force (RAF) is a specialised 10 battalion wing of the Indian Central Reserve Police Force. It was formed in October 1992, to deal with communal riots and related civil unrest. The battalions are numbered from 99 to 108.

## Parliament Duty Group

**Parliament Duty Group** is an elite CRPF unit tasked to provide armed protection to Parliament House.<sup>[1]</sup> It comprises 1,540 personnel drawn from various units of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). PDG members are trained in combating nuclear and bio-chemical attacks, rescue operations and behavioural management.

The Parliament House complex is shielded by four layers of security, each under teams from Delhi police, CRPF, ITBP and personnel of Parliament Security Service. The last was formed in the aftermath of December 2001 attack and its 200-odd personnel will be part of the PDG.<sup>[2]</sup>

PDG personnel are armed with Glock pistols, MP5 assault rifles, INSAS telescopic sniper rifles and hand-held thermal imagers.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Weapons

CRPF uses basic Infantry weapons which are manufactured indigenously at the Indian Ordnance Factories under control of the Ordnance Factories Board:

1. FN 35 and Glock 17 9 mm pistols
2. Heckler & Koch MP5 replacing the Carbine 1A 9 mm sub-machine guns
3. INSAS 5.56 mm assault rifles
4. INSAS 5.56 mm light machine guns replacing the Bren L4 machine guns
5. AGS-30 Planya 30 mm automatic grenade launcher
6. AK 47 and AKM
7. Tavor TAR-21
8. X-95 5.56 MM Assault Rifle. Indian copy of the Tavor TAR-21 procured from Israel.

In addition to these, CRPF also uses land mine detectors.

## Women in the CRPF

The CRPF has three battalions staffed entirely by women. The first battalion No 88 was raised in 1986 with its headquarters at New Delhi. The second battalion 135 came into existence in 1996 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The third battalion, Number 213 is located at Ajmer, Rajasthan.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## The Green Force

Another specialised outfit of the CRPF is the Green Force. The force has been able to effectively check environmental degradation and sustain the regeneration of local flora and fauna. Every year Green Force personnel plant hundreds of thousands of trees in various parts of the country.

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## Cobra Commando

In 2008 a wing called Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) was added to the CRPF to counter the Naxalite movement.

## Commando 469

CRPF Commando specialize in counter-terrorism, reconnaissance, and sabotage and have the honor of being the most elite among the forces. They undergo extremely rigorous training for years sometimes, before they are ready and when they are done with the training, they can be easily classified as among the toughest and most competent men in the forces. it is specialised in covert operations.

## External links

- Official website <sup>[3]</sup>
- GlobalSecurity.org Article <sup>[4]</sup>
- [5]

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A CoBRA commando

# Commando Battalion for Resolute Action

Commando Battalion for Resolute Action



**COBRA** (backronym for *CO*mmando *B*attalion for *R*esolute *A*ction) is a specialised unit of the CRPF created to counter the Naxalite problem in India.<sup>[1][2]</sup> This specialised CRPF unit is one of the few units of the Central Armed Police Forces in the country who are specifically trained in guerilla warfare. This elite fighting unit has been trained to track, hunt and eliminate small Naxalite groups.<sup>[1]</sup> There are currently 10 COBRA units.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Equipment

Cobra is the best-equipped paramilitary unit in the country,<sup>[4]</sup> set up with a grant of ₹ 1300 crore ( ₹ 13 thousand million [ long scale ] or 13 Billion [ Short scale ]) from the Central government.<sup>[citation needed]</sup> They have been armed as a regular infantry platoon with INSAS rifles, AK rifles, X-95, Browning Hi-Power and Glock pistols, Heckler & Koch MP5 submachine guns and Carl Gustav recoilless rifle.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

Cobras also have hi-tech electronic surveillance equipment and well-trained sniper teams, armed with Dragunov SVD, Mauser SP66 and Heckler & Koch MSG-90 sniper rifles.<sup>[1]</sup>

All the equipment for the Cobra is manufactured indigenously by the Indian Ordnance Factories controlled by the Ordnance Factories Board, Ministry of Defence, Government of India.<sup>[5][6]</sup>

## Training

Cobras are trained in the Army's elite Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School in Mizoram and CRPF's anti terrorist school in Silchar. They are adept in the art of camouflage and jungle warfare. Their role is to carry out reconnaissance and long range patrols, gather intelligence on the whereabouts of the insurgents, and also carry out ambushes and precision strikes when required. Their sniper teams can also be used to headshot key targets.<sup>[1]</sup>

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## External links

 Media related to Commando Battalion for Resolute Action at Wikimedia Commons

# Border Security Force

Border Security Force	
Abbreviation	BSF
Formation	December 1, 1965
Headquarters	Force Head Quarters, Block 10 CGO Complex Lodhi Road New Delhi 110003
Director General	MR Subhash Joshi (IPS, Uttarakhand Cadre)
Website	<a href="http://www.bsf.nic.in">www.bsf.nic.in</a> <sup>[1]</sup> <a href="http://www.bsf.gov.in">www.bsf.gov.in</a> <sup>[2]</sup>

The **Border Security Force (BSF)** is a border guarding force of the Government of India. Established on December 1, 1965, it is one of the Central Armed Police Forces. Its primary role is to guard India's international borders during peacetime and also prevent trans border crime. Like all Central Armed Police Forces of India, the BSF is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is one of the many law enforcement agencies of India.

With a strength of 240,000 personnel in 186 battalions, including women personnel,<sup>[1][3]</sup> it is one of the world's largest border patrol forces. K F Rustomji, the BSF's first Director General is referred to as the founding father of the BSF.



The unique BSF Camel Contingent during the annual Republic Day Parade.

## History



From independence in 1947 to 1965, the protection of India's international boundaries was the responsibility of local police battalions belonging to each border state, with little interstate coordination. It is a paramilitary force charged with guarding India's land border during peace time and preventing transnational crime. It is a Union Government Agency under the administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs. It is one of many law enforcement agencies of India. It currently stands as the world's largest border guarding force.

## Formation

The Indo-Pakistani War of 1965 demonstrated the inadequacies of the existing border management system and led to the formation of the Border Security Force as a unified central agency with the specific mandate of guarding India's international boundaries. The BSF was the brain child of its founding father Sh K F Rustamji, the first Director General of BSF. Till 1965 India's borders with Pakistan were manned by the State Armed Police Battalion. Pakistan attacked Sardar Post, Chhar Bet and Beria Bet on April 9, 1965 in Kutch. This exposed the inadequacy of the State Armed Police to cope with armed aggression due to which the Government of India felt the need for a specialized centrally controlled Border Security Force, which would be armed and trained to man the International Border with Pakistan. As a result of the recommendations of the Committee of Secretaries, the Border Security Force came into existence on Dec 1, 1965 with K F Rustamji as its first Director General.

The BSF's capabilities were used in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971 against Pakistani forces in areas where the Regular Forces were thinly spread; BSF troops took part in several operations including the famous Battle of Longewala. In fact, for BSF the war on eastern front had started well before the war actually broke out in Dec '71. BSF had trained, supported and formed part of "Mukti Bahini" and had entered erstwhile East Pakistan before the actual hostilities broke out. BSF had played a very important role in Liberation of Bangladesh which Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Mujibur Rehman had also acknowledged.

The BSF, long considered a male bastion, has now deployed its first batch of women personnel at the border to carry out regular frisking of women as well as other duties performed by their male counterparts, including guarding the border. Over 100 women have been deployed on the highly volatile Indo-Pak border, while around 60 will be deployed on the Indo-Bangla border. In total, 595 women constables will be deployed on the border in different phases.

The previous Director General was U K Bansal who took charge in November 2011.



A member of India's Border Security Force.



BSF soldiers contributing and supporting at a Medical Camp, India.

## **Wagah, Husainiwala & Sadque Border Flag Lowering Ceremony**

Every evening, at the Wagah, Husainiwala & Sadque Border that is the international border of India and Pakistan, the BSF together with the neighboring country's border guarding force which is the Pakistan Rangers do a military drill which both the forces from each country participate in the daily ceremony. This ceremony attracts thousands of spectators domestically and internationally from both the country.

## **Counter insurgency operations**

Although originally charged with guarding India's external boundaries, the BSF has more recently been given the task in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations. When the insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir broke out in 1989, the Jammu and Kashmir state police and the thinly-deployed Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) struggled to cope up with the spiraling violence, and the Indian government deployed the BSF to Jammu and Kashmir to combat Islamic militants.

The BSF initially suffered casualties from insurgent attacks but later saw successes, including the arrest of militant leaders, after setting up an intelligence network and working with local civilians. BSF contribution in reducing militancy in J&K is widely acknowledged. The BSF killed Ghazi Baba—second-in-command of Jaish-e-Mohammed and the mastermind of the 2001 Indian Parliament attack—in August 2003. The BSF raided Baba's hideout in Srinagar and he was killed in the ensuing gunbattle.

Despite the BSF's success in a counter-terrorism role, many in the government felt that this additional burden was leading to a dilution of the BSF's mandate and degrading the force's ability to perform its primary role of guarding the country's borders. The Indian government has now decided to implement recommendations to restrict each security agency to its mandate. Thus the 16 BSF battalions in Jammu and Kashmir are gradually being withdrawn from counter-insurgency duties and diverted back to guard the Indo-Pak border. They are being replaced by fresh units from the CRPF Force that have undergone specialized training in counter-terrorism. But the CRPF is yet to take over sensitive places like Tral. The 16 battalions being withdrawn from J&K were supposed to provide R&R to the battalions already deployed on the border. But with increasing Naxal violence in Central India, government decided to diversify the Anti Naxal operation with the induction of ITBP and BSF. BSF was deployed in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh, where Naxal strength is comparatively thinner than that of other parts of Bastar region. At present total 6 battalions of BSF are stationed in different parts of Kanker district to combat Naxal menace.

## **Organisation**

The Border Security Force has its Head Quarters at New Delhi and is known as Force Head Quarter (FHQ) headed by a Director General. Various Directorates like Operations, Communications & IT, Training, Engineering, General, Law, Provisioning, Administration, Personnel, Medical, Finance etc. function under the DG. Each Directorate is headed by an IG. The Eastern Theater is looked after by Spl DG HQ at Kolkata and the Western Theater is looked after by Spl DG HQ at Chandigarh. Field Formations in BSF are headed by an IG and are known as Frontiers Head Quarters (FtrHQ). There are 10 such Frontier under which Sector Head Quarters (SHQ) function headed by a DIG each. There are 31 such Sectors. Each SHQ has under its command 4–5 Duty Battalions. Presently 186 Battalions are sanctioned to BSF. Five major training institutions and 10 Subsidiary Training Centres (STCs) are imparting ab-initio as well as in-service training to its ranks and other CPOs/SPOs including IPS Probationers.

BSF is the only Central Armed Police force to have its own Air Wing, Marine Wing and artillery regiments, which support the General Duty Battalions in their operations.

The BSF also has a national level school for breeding and training of dogs. Dogs from other CPOs and State Police are sent to National Training Centre for Dogs (NTCD) to be trained in infantry patrol, detection of explosives, tracking and the like.

The BSF maintains a Tear Smoke Unit (TSU), which is unique in India. The TSU is responsible for producing tear gas munitions required for the Anti-Riot Forces. It also exports a substantial quantity to other countries.

Two battalions of the BSF, located at Kolkata and Guwahati, are designated as the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF). Each battalion maintains 18 self-contained specialist search and rescue teams of 45 personnel each, including engineers, technicians, electricians, dog squads and medical/paramedics. The establishment of each battalion is 1,158 personnel. The NDRF is a multi-disciplinary, multi-skilled, high-tech force for all types of disasters and can deploy to disasters by air, sea and land. The battalions are equipped and trained for all natural disasters including combating nuclear disaster, biological and chemical disasters.

### **BSF's role during peace time**

1. To promote sense of security among the people living in the border areas. 2. To prevent trans-border crimes, unauthorized entry into or exit from the territory of India. 3. To prevent smuggling and any other illegal activities on the Border. 4. Anti-infiltration duties. 5. To collect trans-border intelligence. <sup>[4]</sup>

### **BSF's role during war time**

1. Holding ground in assigned sectors. 2. Limited aggressive action against Central Armed Police or irregular forces of enemy. 3. Maintenance of Law and Order in enemy territory administered under the Army's control. 4. Guarding of Prisoners of War camps. 5. Acting as guides to the Army in border areas. 6. Assistance in control of refugees. 7. Provision of escorts. 8. Performing special tasks connected with intelligences including raids. <sup>[4]</sup>

### **Guarding Myanmar (Burma) Border**

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) is considering a proposal to entrust the border guarding duty along the Indo-Myanmar border to the Border Security Force (BSF). Presently, the 1,640 km Indo-Myanmar border is being guarded by Assam Rifles.

The proposed move to guard the Indo-Myanmar follows a proposal from the BSF to take over the role by raising 45 new battalions, one headquarter of additional director general, four frontier headquarters to be headed by an IG rank official 12 sector headquarter to be headed by DIG level officials.

### **ORBAT**

- Western Theatre HQ, Chandigarh
  - Gujarat Frontier
  - Rajasthan Frontier
  - Punjab Frontier
  - Jammu Frontier
  - Srinagar Frontier
- Eastern Theatre HQ, Kolkata
  - South Bengal Frontier<sup>[5]</sup>
  - Malda Frontier
  - North Bengal Frontier
  - Meghalaya Frontier
  - Tripura Frontier
  - Chachar & Mizoram Frontier
  - Guwahati Frontier

## Proposed ORBAT for Myanmar Border

- Northeast Theatre HQ, Imphal
  - Mizoram Frontier
  - Manipur Frontier
  - Nagaland Frontier
  - Arunachal frontier

## Rank structure (gazetted officers)



BSF officer inspecting guard of honour



BSF officers



BSF Embraer

BSF RANKS	POLICE RANKS	ARMY RANKS	NAVY RANKS	AIR FORCE RANKS
Director General (Apex Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Director General of a State Police Force	Lieutenant General (Army Commander's Scale)	Vice Admiral (FOC-in-C's Scale)	Air Marshal (AOC-in-C's Scale)
Special Director General (HAG+ Scale of the Indian Police Service)	Special Director General	Lieutenant General (HAG+ Scale)	Vice Admiral (HAG+ Scale)	Air Marshal (HAG+ Scale)
Additional Director General (Higher Administrative Grade of the IPS cadre, also available to BSF cadre)	C.P, ADG	Lieutenant General (Higher Administrative Grade)	Vice Admiral (HAG)	Air Marshal (HAG)

Inspector General	Joint C.P, IG	Major General	Rear Admiral	Air Vice Marshal
Deputy Inspector General	Additional C.P, DIG	Brigadier	Commodore	Air Commodore
Commandant	SSP/DCP	Colonel	Captain	Group Captain
2 I/C	SP/DCP	Lt. Colonel	Commander	Wing Commander
Deputy Commandant	Addl SP, Addl. DCP	Major	Lt. Commander	Sqn Leader
Assistant Commandant	Assistant commissioner of police	Captain	Lieutenant	Flight Lieutenant

## Roll of honour

The BSF personnel have been recipients of the following awards:

### Military awards

- Mahavir Chakra
- Kirti Chakra
- Vir Chakra
- Ati Vishisht Seva Medal
- Shaurya Chakra
- Sena Medal
- Vishisht Seva Medal
- Mentioned in Despatches

### Civil awards

- Padma Bhushan
- Padmashri
- Prime Minister's Medal for life saving
- Arjuna Awards

### Police medals

- President's Police Medal for Gallantry
- Police Medal for Gallantry
- President Police Medal for Distinguished Service
- Police Medal for Meritorious Service

### Arjuna awardees

1. Comdt (Retd) Nripjit Singh, Volleyball-1962
2. Dy Comdt (Retd) Udham Singh, Hockey-1965
3. Dy Comdt (Retd) Praveen Kumar, Athletic-1967
4. Inspr (Retd) Jagjit Singh, Hockey-1967
5. Asst Comdt (Retd) Ajit Pal Singh, Hockey-1970
6. Dy Comdt (Retd) Balwant Singh, Volleyball-1972
7. Sec-in-Command Anil Kumar, B/Ball-1974
8. Dy Inspr Gen (Retd) Mohinder Singh, Shooting-1983
9. Asst Comdt Mahabir Singh, Wrestling-1985

10. Asst Comdt Subhash Verma, Wrestling-1987
11. Inspr Rajesh Kumar, Wrestling-1990
12. Inspr Sanjay Kumar, Wrestling-1998

## Equipment

All the equipment including the uniforms, weapons, ammunition, vehicles such as the bullet proof vehicles, troop carriers, logistics vehicles, mine protected vehicles are manufactured indigenously at the Indian Ordnance Factories under control of the Ordnance Factories Board.<sup>[6]</sup>

### Pistols And handguns

- IOF .32 Revolver – 6 shot handgun
- FN Browning GP35 9mmx19 mm



FN Browning Hi-Power Practical

### Sub-machine guns and carbines

- Heckler & Koch MP5 A3 9mmx19 mm SMG
- Heckler & Koch MP5 K 9mmx19 mm SMG
- SAF Carbine 1A 9mmx19 mm, Indian made Sterling L2A1 SMG. This is currently being retired.
- SAF Carbine 2A1 9mmx19 mm, Silenced Carbine. This is currently being retired.
- Beretta MX4 Storm submachine guns. 68000 SMGs to be procured to replace OFB 9mm carbines.



Heckler & Koch MP5K

### Assault rifles

- AK-47
- INSAS 5.56mmx45 mm Assault Rifle
- S.L.R self-loading rifle ( Indian origin, has been phased out 90%, with INSAS)

### Sniper rifles

- Vidhwansak anti-materiel rifle (AMR) or large-caliber sniper rifle<sup>[7]</sup>
- Steyr SSG 69



## Machine guns

- 5.56mm INSAS LMG
- FN MAG

## Rocket-propelled grenade

- RPG-7 40mm Rocket Launcher

## Multi-role recoilless rifle

- Carl Gustav 84 mm recoilless rifles



Carl Gustav recoilless rifle

## Gallery



INSAS Rifle.



Steyr SSG 69 PI.



RPG-7 Rocket Launcher



An Igla-1S missile.

## Air defence

### MANPADS

- SA-16 Gimlet- In Service
- SA-7 Grail- In Service, to be phased out

## Aircraft

BSF had evaluated two aircraft for the transport aircraft requirement; they are Alenia C-27J Spartan manufactured by Alenia Aeronautica and EADS CASA C-295.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Elite Commando Force of Border Security Force

Creek Crocodile Commando are the elite commando force of BSF. It is Rann of Kutch (an extensive salt marsh of western India and southeast Pakistan between the Gulf of Kutch and the Indus River delta. It was the scene of major border disputes in 1965 and 1971). Creek (Gujarat): In order to thwart landing of terrorists through the sea route, BSF has formed its first commando unit—Creek Crocodiles—to man the hostile creek area where India shares a border with Pakistan.

Creeks are a very hostile terrain, constituting numerous raised grounds having mangroves and a network of water channels which are quite shallow where all movements are tide dependent.



BSF uses Avro to transport troops

Creek Crocodiles are trained to thwart any evil designs from across the border, BSF commandant Pushpendra Singh Rathore, who had created and trained the commando unit at Koteswar outpost of BSF, said.

"We have kept three things in mind while selecting cadets for the commando including swimming and marine diving performance, firing abilities and endurance to work in the rough creek," commandant Rathore said.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>



Beechcraft Super King Air

The Crocodile units have 42 commandos at presentWikipedia:Manual of Style/Dates and numbers#Chronological items and they are undergoing vigorous training, he said.

### Mine protected vehicles

According to the senior BSF officer, some MPVs have already been introduced in a number of BSF units along the border and more MPVs to be added in the coming years.<sup>[9]</sup>

### Controversies with Bangladesh

According to the Bangladeshi government,136 civilians were killed and a further 170 others suffered injury's in 2009. The Indian government has said that 67 were killed and 80 injured in 2009.<sup>[10]</sup> The Bangladesh government and Bangladeshi organizations protest heavily against these alleged killings. Media reports claim that in August 2008, Indian BSF officials admitted that they killed 59 illegals(34 Bangladeshis, 21 Indians, rest unidentified) who were trying to cross the border illegally during the prior six months.<sup>[11]</sup> Indian media claimed that, in 2001, Bangladeshi Border Force kidnapped and murdered 16 BSF personnel because they chased some Bangladeshi goons back to Bangladesh. Since then, the BSF has been compelled to acts tough against Bangladeshi illegals<sup>[12]</sup>

In July 2009 Channel 4 News reported that apparently "hundreds" of Bangladeshis and Indians are indiscriminately killed by the BSF along the Indo-Bangladeshi Barrier. The BSF claims that the barrier's main purpose is to check illegal immigration to India, and prevent cross-border terrorism from Islamists.<sup>[]</sup>

Bangladeshi media accused the BSF of abducting 5 Bangladeshi children, aged between 8 and 15, from the Haripur Upazila in Thakurgaon District of Bangladesh, in 2010. The children were setting fishing nets near the border.<sup>[]</sup>

In 2010, Human Rights Watch (HRW) issued a 81 page report which alleged "over 900 of abuses by the BSF" in the first decade of the 21st century. The report was compiled from interviews with victims of BSF shootings, witnesses and members of the BSF and its Bangladeshi counterpart. According to HRW, while most of them were killed when they crossed into Indian territory for indulging in cattle raiding or other smuggling activities.<sup>[13]</sup>

In February 2012, the BSF website was hacked by Bangladeshi hackers in retaliation. The hackers later shared the news in the internet and also in the other social sites where they claimed to have defaced the sites asking the BSF to stop killing Bangladeshis at border. The site became normal sometime on February 15, 2012.<sup>[14][15]</sup>

<sup>[16][17]</sup>



## Criticism

In 2010, some Canadian visa officials rejected the immigration application of a retired BSF soldier Moninder Singh Pandher, terming BSF a *"notoriously violent paramilitary unit engaged in systematic attacks on civilians and responsible for torturing suspected criminals"*. This accusation against one of India's elite Central Police force did not go down well with the Indian government. The Indian External Affairs Ministry was asked by the Home minister to take up the issue with Canada.<sup>[18]</sup> The Home ministry of India, as well as the Indian public in general and several of India's political parties, have expressed outrage at this attack and have called Canada's actions discriminatory and spurious, and their charges against the BSF as baseless and unproven. The Indian government has threatened diplomatic retaliation unless they withdraw their allegations. The Canadian government did not respond immediately.<sup>[19]</sup> It was speculated that diplomatic retaliation from India will consist of banning Canadians going to participate the War in Afghanistan if they are doing so through India. Public outrage in India prompted Canadian authorities to express "great respect for India's armed forces and related institutions".<sup>[20]</sup> Subsequently, India's Ministry of External Affairs summoned Canadian High Commissioner Joseph Caron and demanded that "the blatant discrimination against Indian security agencies" cease.<sup>[21]</sup> India's Minister of External Affairs, SM Krishna, condemned Canada's actions and has expressed pride in the accomplishments of the BSF.<sup>[22]</sup>

Following complaints made by the Indian government and criticism of Canada's actions against India, the Harper government retracted their earlier accusations against BSF security officials. Canada's Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Jason Kenney, Termed as "unfortunate" the incidents involving use of *"foul language by the Canadian High Commission in visa rejection letters to some individuals"*, Kenney said, *"This language, or the inaccurate impression it has created, in no way reflects the policy or position of the Government of Canada."*<sup>[23]</sup>

## References

[4]

[1] <http://www.bsf.nic.in/>

[2] <http://www.bsf.gov.in/>

[4] Page no. 636 & 637 of Chapter 20 India 2013 published by Publications Division of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India

[5] [sb.bsf.gov.in](http://sb.bsf.gov.in) (<http://sb.bsf.gov.in>)

[6] <http://ofbindia.gov.in/index.php?wh=inbrief&lang=en>

[10] <http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=179091>

[11] India says 59 killed over last six months on Bangladesh border (<http://in.reuters.com/article/topNews/idINIndia-35156020080824>), Reuters, August 24, 2008.

[14] [http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-02-15/india/31062663\\_1\\_pakistani-hackers-indian-websites-indian-hackers](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-02-15/india/31062663_1_pakistani-hackers-indian-websites-indian-hackers)

[15] <http://www.deccanchronicle.com/channels/nation/south/20000-indian-websites-come-under-attack-bangladesh-hackers-999>

[16] <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2013/01/02/180831#.UOYNVORLWX11>

[17] <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2013/01/03/181008#.UOYN4ORLWX0>

## External links

- Official website (<http://bsf.gov.in/>)
- Border Security Force @ India Defence (<http://www.india-defence.com/military/bordersecurityforce>)
- Global Security (<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/india/bsf.htm>)
- CI Operations in Jammu and Kashmir (<http://www.bharat-rakshak.com/MONITOR/ISSUE3-2/Ins.html>)

# Indo-Tibetan Border Police

## Indo-Tibetan Border Police

Motto: " <b>Shaurya – Dridata – Karm Nishtha</b> " Valour – Determination – Devotion to Duty
<b>Headquarters</b>
New Delhi, India
<b>Director General, ITBP</b>
DGP Ajay Chadha, IPS AGMU cadre.
<b>Website</b>
itbp.nic.in <sup>[1]</sup>

The **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)** is an Indian force conceived on October 24, 1962 for security along the India's border with the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, border covering 2115 kilometres. It is one of the Central Armed Police Forces. The first Director General of the ITBP was Late Sardar Balbir Singh. This was also his brain child along with his colleagues.

Only four battalions were sanctioned to begin with, to fill up the security vacuum that was prevalent at that time on the Indo-Tibetan border. Later in view of the additional responsibilities and the task redefined in 1976, the Force was restructured in 1978.

The ITBP is trained in Civil Medical Camp, disaster management, and nuclear, biological and chemical disasters. ITBP personnel have been deployed abroad in UN peacekeeping missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Haiti, Western Sahara, Sudan, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

## Roles

ITBP is a multi-dimensional force which primarily has 5 functions-

1. Vigil on the northern borders, detection and prevention of border violations, and promotion of the sense of security among the local populace.
2. Check illegal immigration and trans-border smuggling .
3. Provide security to sensitive installations and threatened VIPs.
4. Restore and preserve order in any area in the event of disturbance.
5. to maintain the peace in the country.

Presently, Battalions of ITBP are deployed on Border Guarding Duties from Karakoram Pass in Ladakh to Diphu La in Arunachal Pradesh, covering 3488 km of the India-China Border. Manned border posts are at altitudes as high as 21000' in the Western, Middle & Eastern Sector of the border. ITBP is a mountain trained force and most of the officers & men are professionally trained mountaineers and skiers. The force is under an expansion plan in order to provide relief to its troops from constant deployment in high altitude areas under dynamic and professional leadership of Sh Ranjit Sinha, IPS.



Chitkul Village, as seen from the road to the ITBP checkpoint.

- The border posts manned by ITBP are exposed to high velocity storms, snow blizzards, avalanches, and landslides, besides the hazards of high altitude and extreme cold, where temperature dips up to minus 40 degree Celsius. ITBP conducts Long Range and Short Range patrols to keep an effective vigil on inaccessible and unmanned areas on the border.
- The ITBP has recently taken on a disaster management role. Being the first responder for natural Disaster in Himalayas, ITBP was the first to establish 06 ( Now 08) Regional Response Centres in HP, Uttarakhand and North East and carried out numerous rescue and relief operations in various disaster situations, which took place in our areas of responsibility as well as other parts of the country. ITBP has already trained 1032 personnel in Disaster Management including 98 personnel in Radiological and Chemical and Biological emergencies.
- ITBP has established a National Centre for Training in Search, Rescue & Disaster response at Bhanu, Haryana which is imparting training to personnel of ITBP and other Paramilitary / State Police Forces. There is also a training centre for the Dogs at Basic Training centre situated at Bhanu. The centre is known as NICD.
- ITBP Commando units provide security to the Embassy and consulates of India in Afghanistan. Besides this two Companies of the ITBP are providing security in Afghanistan.
- 1 coy of ITBP is deployed in United Nation Mission in Congo since November, 2005. A National Centre for UNCIVPOL training has been set up at ITBP Camp, Tigri, Khanpur, Delhi for providing systematic training to Indian Police Officers for deployment in UN Mission.
- ITBP is also providing security to the pilgrims during Annual Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from 1981. ITBP provides communication, security and medical cover to the yatries from Gunji to Lipulekh Pass and back to Gunji in co-ordination with MEA and Kumaon Mandal vikas Nigam.

ITBP's major training centre is located at Mussoorie, in Uttarakhand. The Training Academy has been established in 1976, and imparts training to Officers, Subordinate officers, and promotional course. Specialised training programmes in rock craft, explosives handling etc. are also conducted here. Ace mountaineer and Padm shri awardee, Sh Harbhajan Singh, IG heads this institution. Keeping in view the evolving security scenario of the country, ITBP has established a Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School at an altitude of 6000 feet in the heart of extremely tough Himalayan mountains, at Mahidanda in Uttarkashi district, under dynamic vision of the then DG of the Force Sh Vikram Srivasatava, IPS. He provided top rated leadership to the force. The CIJW school provides state of the art training to ITBP's men and officers to enable them to take on the 21st century's security challenges in the form of anti Naxal Ops. Jungle warfare, handling of explosives, rock craft, survival in adverse conditions, unarmed combat, and guerrilla warfare are some of the subjects trained here. The training regime, formulated under close supervision of Sh Rajiv Mehta, IPS and executed on ground by Sanjeev Raina, DIG is extremely demanding both mentally and physically, needing special preparation. The presence of the force along the Indo China border, maintains vigil along the extremely difficult high altitude border area. The troops of the force keeps a sharp eye on any violation of the border, trans border smuggling, and affords a sense of security to the remotely located isolated settlements. The altitude where the troops are deployed range up to 18800 feet, and the temperature plummets to minus 30 degrees during winter with snow fall of more than ten feet. The force is synonymous with adventure and dare-devilry and has undertaken numerous mountaineering expeditions. Its skiers have been national champions, who have done India proud in the winter Olympics. Its river rafters have created international history in rafting through the turbulent white waters of the mighty Brahmaputra, the Indus and the Ganges. The Force has created a milestone by becoming the first Central Para Military Force to grab up the Best Marching Contingent Trophy in the Republic Day parades in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2011. It broke new ground in 1998 when it sent the first ever police tableau of the country to participate in the Republic Day Parade. ITBP is in the forefront of movement for the preservation of Himalayan environment and ecology. ITBP has taken up in a big way the task of greening the Himalayan regions especially in Inner Himalayas. Being the only human presence in areas close to China border, it has taken on itself the task of maintaining the delicate balance of flora and fauna.

ITBP being deployed in mountains has developed the expertise in rescue & relief operations in mountains, which entail different specialized skills of very high standard. It is always first in extending rescue & relief in case of natural calamity. ITBP conducts a large number of civic action programmes in remote border and terrorist affected areas to provide free and expert medical, health and hygiene care to the civilian population in remote villages.

ITBP Academy has been given the status of 'Centre of Excellence' by the Government of India and now is on the path of modernization of its training infra- structure. Till June 2004, the Academy has trained 3785 GOs, 7776 SOs and 27476 Other Ranks from ITBP and CPOs/ State Police Forces.

The Indo Tibetan Border Police Force organised a Half Marathon named as "ITBP-run for the nation", which was held at New Delhi on 7th Oct. 2012 om J.L.N. Stadium to Rajpath- Janpath and back to J.N.L. Stadium. Over 10000 participants ran in this mega event, which was first of its kind in the history of CAPFs in the country.

Super Star Mr. Salman Khan flagged off this mega event. He also made an appeal to countrymen to run for the nation.

## Training Centres

ITBP training centres develop and inculcate thoroughly amongst the trainees the qualities of: Professional skills, esprit de corps, leadership. They are taught the values of integrity, impartiality and respect for all castes, creeds and religions . Maintaining the highest tradition of supreme sacrifice in the service of motherland the valiant Himveers are also taught to function effectively while always keeping in mind human rights and the codes of war which always guide their conduct.

So as to make them a formidable force in maintaining the security & territorial integrity of India The Basic Training Centre at Bhanu, ITBP Academy at Mussourie, and the Mountaineering & Skiing Institute at Auli run the training programmes and conduct indoor and outdoor training activities, in pursuance of this mission

The motto of the ITBP, *Shaurya, dridata, karm nishtha* (*Valour, determination, devotion to duty*) has always inspired its men in accepting challenges to bring glory to the nation and honour to the force. In the course of active duties, the force has earned a number of Civil and Service honours, and decorations like Padma Shree – 2, Shaurya Chakra – 1, Sena Medal – 1, President's Police Medal for Gallantry – 3, Police Medal for Gallantry – 44, President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service – 63, Police Medal for Meritorious Service – 292 and the Prime Minister's Life Saving Medal – 54.

ITBP has undergone a massive expansion plan to provide much needed relief to its troops who remain deployed in the tough high altitude terrain for most part of their service. 13 units were raised in the year 2006–07, followed by another 7 units the following year.

ITBP is building full fledge recreation and Training centre In Belgaum at Halbhavi, Belgaum provides the best climate for recreation and ITBP will relocate the personal and will have large family bases in Belgaum for its soldiers after high altitude stressful duty.

## Fatalities

- Assistant Commandant Ashok Kumar Rana was killed in 1998 at Chirwar, in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, in an encounter with Kashmiri insurgents.
- Deputy Commandant Joy Lal, was killed in a land mine blast.
- Inspector Raj Kumar was killed in 1997 in an encounter with Kashmiri insurgents at Wangam in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, and was posthumously decorated.
- Constable Suresh Kumar was killed in December 1994 in an encounter with Kashmiri insurgents in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, and was posthumously decorated.

- Constable Kishan Ram killed in March 1994 in an encounter with insurgents in District Anantnag in the state of Jammu & Kashmir, and was posthumously decorated.
- Three members of the ITBP were also killed in an attempt to climb Mount Everest during a severe storm in 1996.
- Ct Ajay Pathania and Roop Singh were killed when a suicide bomber attacked the Indian Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan on July 7, 2008. Both the officers have been honoured with Kirti Chakra on 15 August 2008.
- 6 ITBP personnel were killed during rescue operations in flood hit Uttarakhand when the Mi-17V5 helicopter of IAF crashed due to bad weather.

## External links

- ITBP website <sup>[2]</sup>
- ITBP Academy <sup>[3]</sup>

## References

[1] <http://itbpolice.nic.in>

[2] <http://itbp.gov.in/>

[3] <http://trg.svpnpa.gov.in/pt/ITBPabtacad.asp>

# Sashastra Seema Bal

Sashastra Seema Bal Armed Border Force	
<b>Abbreviation</b>	SSB
<b>Motto</b>	"Service, Security and Brotherhood".
<b>Headquarters</b>	Directorate General of SSB, East Block-V, Sector-I R.K. Puram New Delhi-110066
<b>Director General</b>	ARUN CHOUDHARY, IPS (Bihar - 1977)
<b>Website</b>	ssb.nic.in <sup>[1]</sup>

**Sashastra Seema Bal** or **SSB** (Meaning: *Armed Border Force*) (Devanāgarī: सशस्त्र सीमा बल, ) is one of India's Central Armed Police Forces. It is often referred to as a paramilitary force (although it is not one of the three officially defined paramilitary forces of India). It is currently under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India. It was formerly known as the Special Service Bureau.

## History

SSB was set up in early 1963 in the wake of the Sino-Indian War to inculcate feelings of national belonging in the border population and develop their capabilities for resistance through a continuous process of motivation, training, development, welfare programmes and activities in the then NEFA, North Assam (northern areas of Assam state), North Bengal (northern areas of West Bengal state), hills of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Ladakh. The scheme was later extended to Manipur, Tripura, Jammu (1965), Meghalaya (1975), Sikkim (1976), border areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat (1989), Manipur, Mizoram and some more areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat (1988), South Bengal (southern areas of West Bengal state), Nagaland (1989) and Nubra Valley, Rajouri and Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir (1991).<sup>[2]</sup> It was specifically created as the brainchild of Indian think tank to counter the Chinese. It was believed that militarily, the Chinese were superior to India and in the event of a war, the Chinese would overwhelm Indian forces. So in 1963 a unique force was created, which would in the event of Chinese occupation merge with the border population, donning civilian attire, working a parallel administration and carry out the war of India with the help of guerrilla tactics.<sup>[3]</sup> The SSB came out to be successful which was evident by the success it achieved by training Mukti Bahini in Bangladesh and other places, COIN Op's in the north-east, and providing security at high peaks during Indo-Pakistani War of 1971 and Kargil War.

From the Cabinet, SSB was transferred to Ministry of Home Affairs and assigned the duties of manning the Nepal and Bhutan borders. SSB is a Border Guarding Force (BGF) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs in the year 2001.

In the forty years of its existence, SSB endeavoured to present a benign face of the government among border populace in the far flung and inaccessible areas subscribing to the ETHOS of Service, Security and Brotherhood. The local populace always found SSB standing steadfastly with them during difficult times.<sup>[4]</sup>

Pursuant to the recommendations of a group of ministers on reforming the national security system, SSB was declared as a Border Guarding Force and Lead Intelligence Agency (LIA) for Indo-Nepal border (January, 2001) and assigned the task of guarding the 1751 km long Indo-Nepal border along the states of Uttarakhand, (263.7 km with 3 districts), Uttar Pradesh (599.3 km - with 7 districts), Bihar (800.4 km - with 7 districts), West Bengal (105.6 km - with 1 district) and Sikkim (99 km). In March 2004, SSB was assigned the task of guarding the 699 km stretch of

Indo-Bhutan border along the states of Sikkim- (32 km), West Bengal ( 183 km - with 2 districts), Assam (267 km - with 4 districts) and, Arunachal Pradesh (217 km - with 2 districts).<sup>[5]</sup> Since then SSB was re-christened into Sashastra Seema Bal and reached new heights. SSB is the first border guarding force which has decided to recruit women battalions. It is doing excellent job as Border Guarding Force on INDO-NEPAL and INDO-BHUTAN Border.

SSB is also engaged in Counter Insurgency operations in Jammu and Kashmir and Anti naxal operations in Jharkhand and Bihar. It is also performing internal security duties i.e. Election duties and law and order duties in different parts of India.

SSB is celebrating the year 2013 as Golden Jubilee year marking fifty years of its raising. The celebrations have commenced with the Flag-off of a Mount Everest Expedition on 2nd April, 2013 from Delhi. The team led by Shri Somit Joshi, Commandant, successfully reached at the peak at about 9.45 am on 21st May 2013 commemorate the 50th anniversary.

## Role

The role of SSB consists of the following:-

- (a) To promote sense of security among the people living in the border areas.
- (b) To prevent trans-border crimes, and unauthorised entries entry or exit from the territory of India.
- (c) To prevent smuggling and other illegal activities.

To achieve the above objectives, Ministry Of Home Affairs (MHA) Govt of India has conferred various powers to SSB personnel under Criminal Procedure Code 1973, Arms Act 1959, NDPS Act 1985 and Passport Act 1967. The GOI is also contemplating to confer powers under Customs Act 1962. These powers are to be exercised within a belt of 15 kilometers in the states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh running along the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan border and in any area of SSB operation.

## Organization

The highest-level headquarter of the force is the Force Headquarters (FHQ), also called the Directorate General of SSB, located in New Delhi. Force Headquarter (FHQ) is commanded by an officer of the rank of Director General. Director General is assisted by Additional Director General. Various Directorates like Operations and Intelligence, Personnel and Training, Administration, Provisioning and Communication, Medical, etc. function under the DG. Each Directorate is headed by an IG and assisted by DIG and other officers.

Frontier headquarters (FTR HQ) is commanded by an officer of the rank of Inspector General (IG) comes next in chain of command after FHQ. FTR HQR in turn exercises command and control over the sector HQs. There are Five FTR HQRs situated at Ranikhet, Lucknow, Patna, Siliguri and Guwahati.

The Sector HQs are commanded by Officers of the rank of Deputy Inspector General (DIG). There are Fifteen Sector Headquarters located at Almora, Pilibhit, Lakhimpur Kheri, Gorakhpur, Bettiah, Muzzafarpur, Ranidanga, New Jaipauri, Gangtok, Bongaigaon, Rangia, Tezpur, Jammu and Kashmir and Alwar. The Sector HQ exercises direct command and control over the SSB Battalions deployed in its area of responsibility along Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders.

SSB Battalion having strength of 1172 personnel is commanded by officer of the rank of Commandant who is assisted by officers of the rank of Second-in-Command, Deputy Commandant and Assistant Commandant. Battalion is further divided into Companies and Border Out post (BOP). There are seven Companies in a Battalion and Each Company consists three Border outposts. Company is commanded by Assistant Commandants and BOP is commanded by Sub Inspectors. MHA has sanctioned 73 Battalions for SSB for Border duties and Internal Security duties.

## Ranks

There are two wings in SSB namely Combatised wing (Uniform Personnel) and Area wing (Non-Uniform OR Civil Personnel) which perform duties assigned by the FHQ. Both wings have their own cadre. Combatised wing perform duties in Battalions on INDO-NEPAL AND INDO-BHUTAN BORDER whereas Area wing perform duties in Area primarily for intelligence collection.

### Combatised wing

- **Gazetted Officers (GOs)**

1. Director General
2. Special Director General
3. Additional Director General
4. Inspector General
5. Deputy Inspector General
6. Commandant
7. Second-in-Command
8. Deputy Commandant
9. Assistant Commandant

- **Non-Gazetted Officers (NGOs)**

1. Inspector
2. Sub Inspector
3. Assistant Sub Inspector
4. Head Constable
5. Constable
6. Tradesmen.

### Area Wing

- **Gazetted Officers (GOs)**

1. Area Organiser
2. Joint Area Organiser
3. Sub Area Organiser
4. Circle Officer

- **Non-Gazetted Officers (NGOs)**

1. Field Officer
  2. Deputy Field Officer
  3. Assistant Field Officer
  4. Senior Field Assistant
  5. Field Assistant
  6. Peons.
-



## Recruitment

1. **Assistant Commandants**- Assistant Commandants (Pay scale Rs. 15600-39100 plus grade pay Rs.5400) are recruited through a Competitive Examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). It is Group "A" Gazetted Central Service. Assistant Commandants are subsequently promoted to the rank of Deputy Commandant (Pay scale Rs. 15600-39100 plus grade pay Rs.6600), Second-in-Command (Pay scale Rs. 15600-39100 plus grade pay Rs.7600), Commandant (Pay scale Rs. 37400-67000 plus grade pay Rs.8700), Deputy Inspector general (Pay scale Rs. 37400-67000 plus grade pay Rs.8900), Inspector General (Pay scale Rs. 37400-67000 plus grade pay Rs.10000) and Additional Director General (Pay scale Rs. 67000-79000 plus HAG) and Director General (Pay scale Rs.80000 fixed) over the years.
2. **Sub-Inspectors**- Sub-Inspectors (Pay scale Rs. 9300-34800 plus grade pay Rs.4200) are recruited by Staff Selection Commission (SSC).
3. **Constables** - Constables (Pay scale Rs. 5200-20200 plus grade pay Rs.2000) are recruited by Staff Selection Commission (SSC).

## Training Centres

The training to force personnel of the SSB is given on training centres and additional training centres. Training to force personnel is imparted in following training centres on Counter Subversion, Border Management, Perception Management, and Survival & Other Professional Courses Designed to enhance performance.<sup>[6]</sup>

1. SSB Academy Srinagar Garhwal (Uttarakhand)
2. CTC Salonibari (Assam)
3. CIJW School Gwaldam (Uttarakhand)
4. CTC, Sapri (Himachal Pradesh)
5. RTC Gorakhpur (UP)
6. RTC Bhopal (MP)
7. RTC Alwar (Raj)
8. Telecom TC, Kasumpti (HP)
9. MTC Shimla (HP)
10. ITS Ghitorni (Del)
11. IT&T TC, Faridaba (Haryana)
12. DTC Palampur (HP)

Apart from above there are Additional Training Centres at different places in which newly recruited constables are being trained.

## References

- [1] <http://ssb.nic.in/>
- [2] <http://www.ssb.nic.in/index.asp?linkid=59&sublinkid=32>
- [3] <http://ssb.nic.in/>
- [4] <http://india.gov.in/govt/armedforces.php?id=14>
- [5] <http://www.ssb.nic.in/index.asp?linkid=59&sublinkid=32>
- [6] [www.ssb.nic.in/index.asp?linkid=62](http://www.ssb.nic.in/index.asp?linkid=62)

# Central Industrial Security Force

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Central Internal Security Force



The **Central Industrial Security Force** (*established in its present form: 15 June 1983*) is a Central Armed Police Force in India.

It was set up under an Act of the Parliament of India on 10 March 1969 with a strength of 2,800. CISF was subsequently made an armed force of the Union of India by another Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1983. Its current strength is 165,000. The strength will be raised to 200,000 over the next 2–3 years. CISF is the largest industrial security force in the world.<sup>[1]</sup>

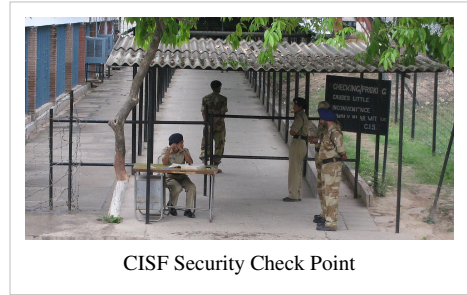
It is directly under the federal Ministry of Home Affairs and its headquarters are at New Delhi.

The CISF provides security cover to 300 industrial units and other establishments located all over India. Industrial sectors like atomic power plants, space installations, defence production units such as the Indian Ordnance Factories, DRDO, mints, oil fields and refineries, major ports, heavy engineering, steel plants, barrages, fertiliser units, airports and hydroelectric/thermal power plants, and currency note presses producing Indian currency are protected by CISF. It thereby covers installations all over India straddling a variety of terrain and climatic conditions. CISF also provides consultancy services to private industries as well as other organisation within the Indian government. The consulting wing has amongst its clients some of the renowned business houses and organisations of India including TISCO, Jamshedpur; SEBI Hqrs. Mumbai; Vidhana Sabha, Bangalore; Orissa Mining Co., Bhubaneswar; AP Assembly, Hyderabad; Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corp.; HIL Kerala; IB Thermal plant, Odisha; IARI, Delhi; NBRI, Lucknow and Electronics City, Bangalore. The scope of CISF's consulting practice includes security consulting and fire protection consulting.

## Raising and charter

It was set up under an act of the Parliament of India on March 10, 1969 with a strength of around 2,800 personnel and as the name suggests, it was created for the better protection and security of industrial undertakings in the country. There was a limitation though, that industries to be provided protection should be wholly owned by the central government, which has since been modified so that the industries can now be a joint venture with the central government.

However the role of CISF has undergone a diversification and it now also protects airports, seaports, metro rail networks, government buildings, heritage monuments (including the Taj Mahal), opium and alkaloids extractions, nuclear power plants, and space installations. It also specialises in VIP security as well as disaster management.



CISF Security Check Point

## Ranks in CISF

### Officers

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL
2. ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL
3. INSPECTOR GENERAL
4. DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL
5. SENIOR COMMANDANT
6. COMMANDANT
7. DEPUTY COMMANDANT
8. ASSISTANT COMMANDANT

## CISF to protect Non Nationalised industry/Corporate sector

The Indian Parliament on 25 February 2009 authorised the provision of Central Industrial Security Force security to private and cooperative establishments across the country for a fee with the passage of the CISF (Amendment) Bill, 2008.

The Bill, which was passed by Rajya Sabha on February 19 and Lok Sabha on 25 February 2009, also provides for deployment of CISF to protect Indian missions abroad and its participation in the UN peacekeeping operations.

CISF started providing security to the Infosys Bangalore campus in July 31, 2009.<sup>[2]</sup> The Infosys Mysore, the Reliance Refinery, Jamnagar and the Delhi Metro Airport Express Line are the latest additions to the list of private sector establishments to be placed under CISF cover. Mr Manish Kumar Rai, Asstt Commandant, led the first contingent of CISF deployed at Infosys Bangalore

CISF has also started providing security to the Infosys Pune campus from April 21, 2011.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Airport security

The CISF is in charge of airport security at all commercial airports in India. Airport security, in the past, was under the control of airport police (under the relevant state government). However, following the hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight 814 in 1999, the topic of handing over security of the airports to the CISF was first proposed. While this proposal lay low for the next two years, the central government decided to respond to the security threat faced by all major nations of the world after the 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States and decided to adopt the suggestion. The Jaipur Airport was the first airport that came under the CISF's control on 3 February 2000.

Following this, the majority of the commercial airports in India were brought under its purview.<sup>[4]</sup> As of now CISF is protecting a total of 58 international and domestic airports in the country.

## Security for Delhi Metro

Security on the Delhi Metro is handled by the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), who have been guarding the system ever since they took over from the Delhi Police in 2007.<sup>[5]</sup> Closed-circuit cameras are used to monitor trains and stations, and feed from these is monitored by both the CISF and Delhi Metro authorities at their respective control rooms.<sup>[6]</sup> Over 3500 CISF personnel have been deployed to deal with law and order issues in the system, in addition to metal detectors, x-ray baggage inspection systems and dog squads which are used to secure the system.<sup>[7]</sup> Intercoms are provided in each train car for emergency communication between the passengers and the driver.<sup>[8]</sup> Periodic security drills are carried out at stations and on trains to ensure preparedness of security agencies in emergency situations.<sup>[9]</sup> cisf giving very good security in delhi metro. Wikipedia: Verifiability

## Fire Wing

CISF is unique as a force in that it has a Fire Wing comprising 4,625 officers and personnel giving fire protection to 77 industries.

## External links

- Official website <sup>[10]</sup>
- Description on globalsecurity.org <sup>[11]</sup>

## References

- [1] Origin - CISF website (<http://web.archive.org/web/20030215194126/http://cisf.nic.in/CISF-Origin.htm>)
- [8] [http://www.delhimetrorail.com/OtherDocuments/commuters\\_guide/pdf/security\\_english.pdf](http://www.delhimetrorail.com/OtherDocuments/commuters_guide/pdf/security_english.pdf)
- [10] <http://cisf.gov.in/>
- [11] <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/india/cisf.htm>
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# Railway Protection Force

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The **Indian Railway Protection Force (RPF)** is an Indian Central Armed Police Force charged with protecting the Indian Railways. The strength of RPF is about 65,000.

The duties of the Railway Protection Force include:

- To do all conducive means for the free movement of the railways.
- Protection and safeguarding of railway property.
- Protection and safeguarding of passenger, their belongings and passenger areas.

The origin of this force was 'Watch & Ward' and functioned under the administrative control of railway administration. Later on this force was renamed as Railway Protection Force and its members were provided with the power of arrest without warrant for the unlawful possession of railway property. The term railway property included only the properties owned by the railway administration. In due course of time, the definition for the term Railway Property was extended and it included the properties owned by, or in the charge of or entrusted with the railways. The offenders are booked under the Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act 1966 which is shortly known as RP(UP) Act 1966. Now the Railway Protection Force has a separate administrative system and functions under the general supervision of the Railway Administration

## Rank structure

- Director General
- Additional Director General
- Chief Security Commissioner (Inspector-General; Additional Inspector-General; Deputy Inspector-General)
- Additional Chief Security \*Commissioner
- Dy. Chief Security Commissioner
- Senior Divisional Security Commissioner / Dy Chief Security Commissioner
- Divisional Security Commissioner { DSC }
- Assistant Security Commissioner [From this post above, selection is through UPSC.]
- Inspector
- Sub-Inspector (SI)
- Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI)
- Head Constable
- Constable(GD)
- Cook/sweeper

## External links

- Official website of the Railway Protection Force <sup>[1]</sup>

## References

- [1] [http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/view\\_section.jsp?lang=0&id=0,1,304,366,533](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/view_section.jsp?lang=0&id=0,1,304,366,533)
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# National Security Guard

National Security Guard	
<b>Abbreviation</b>	NSG
NSG Logo	
Flag of the National Security Guard.	
<b>Motto</b>	सर्वत्र सर्वोत्तम सुरक्षा (Sarvatra Sarvottam Surakhsha)(Sanskrit)
	Omnipresent Omnipotent Defense
Agency overview	
<b>Formed</b>	1984
<b>Legal personality</b>	Governmental: Government agency
Jurisdictional structure	
<b>Federal agency</b>	India
<b>Constituting instrument</b>	National Security Guard Act, 1986
<b>General nature</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal law enforcement</li> <li>Civilian agency</li> </ul>
<b>Specialist jurisdiction</b>	
Operational structure	
<b>Agency executive</b>	Arvind Ranjan, Director General
<b>Parent agency</b>	Indian Police Service, Indian Army
Website	
www.nsg.gov.in <sup>[1]</sup>	

The **National Security Guard (NSG)** is a special force in India that has primarily been utilised for counter-terrorism activities and was created by the Cabinet Secretariat under the *National Security Guard Act* of the Indian Parliament in 1986. It works completely within the Central Armed Police Forces structure. The NSG is an elite force providing a second line of defence to the nation. They have played a pivotal role in safeguarding the unity of India and have commendably foiled attempts of anti-national elements to tear apart the social fabric of the country. The NSG has maintained an edge over terrorist outfits in possession of latest technology and are considered among the best special operations units in the world.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Aim

The National Security Guard (NSG) was set up in 1984 as a Federal Contingency Deployment Force to tackle all facets of terrorism in the country<sup>[2]</sup> and has acquired considerable experience from the intense insurgency operations it has faced – from the present conflict in the state of Kashmir to the cradle of its birth, the state of Punjab. Adopting a variety of roles from counter-terrorism to hostage rescue to VIP protection, the NSG proudly wears the mantle of being one of the finest counter-terrorist units in all of Asia. The NSG's roles include conducting anti-sabotage checks, rescuing hostages, neutralising terrorist threats to vital installations, engaging terrorists, responding to hijacking and piracy and protecting VIPs.

The NSG's specific goals include:

- Neutralization of terrorist threats

- Handling hijacking situations in air and on land.
- Bomb disposal (search, detection and neutralisation of IEDs).
- PBI (Post Blast Investigation)
- Engaging and neutralizing terrorists in specific situations.
- Hostage Rescue

## Structure

The NSG operates under the oversight of the Ministry of Home Affairs and is headed by the Director General of the Indian Police Service (IPS).<sup>[1]</sup> The NSG members are also known as **Black Cats** because of the black drill cotton coveralls and balaclavas or helmets they wear.

The NSG has a total personnel strength of about 14,500. The NSG is modelled on Germany's GSG 9 (Grenzschutzgruppe 9 or "Border Guard Group 9").<sup>[2]</sup> It is a task-oriented force and has two complementary elements in the form of the Special Action Group (SAG) and the Special Ranger Groups (SRG). The NSG currently has two SAGs – 51 Special Action Group and 52 Special Action Group; and three SRGs – 11, 12 and 13. Each unit has 900 personnel.<sup>[3]</sup>

The Special Action Group is the strike force in anti-terrorist and anti-hijack operations, supported by the SRG. All the personnel in the SAGs and some support units, training and headquarters are on deputation from Indian Armed Forces, the rest being drawn from the central police organisations. The SAG is the offensive wing drawn from units of the Indian Army. The SRG consists of members from Central Paramilitary Forces (CPFs) and Central Police Organisations (CPOs) such as the Border Security Force (BSF), the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and State Police forces.

The smallest combat unit in the NSG's counter-terrorist operations is a "hit" which comprises five members – two pairs, or partners and a technical support member. Four hits make a team which is under the command of a Captain. The number of hits used for an intervention job depends on its complexity and the magnitude of the operation. In hostage rescue situations, a team of 50 to 90 NSG personnel and an IL-76MD strategic transport aircraft to transport them, are stationed on alert at New Delhi's Palam Air Force Station and are ready to deploy within 30 minutes of being informed.

## History

The NSG was established under the National Security Guard Act of 1986. The NSG was formed after an analysis of 1984 Operation Blue Star. During this operation, in which the Indian Army removed Sikh militants who had seized control of the Golden Temple, there was significant civilian collateral casualties. The temple also suffered damages during that operation. The operation highlighted the need for a force specialising in counter-terrorist operations with greater efficiency.

The NSG commandos were first used to combat the insurgency movement in the Indian state of Punjab in 1986. They are now primarily utilised for counter-terrorist activities and have seen combat operations in Jammu and Kashmir, though sparingly.

NSG deployments are usually not made public, with most of its operations remaining classified.

Some of the NSG's known operations include:

- 29–30 April 1986: About 300 NSG commandos and 700 Border Security Force troops stormed the Golden Temple in Operation Black Thunder I. The Temple was cleared and handed over to Punjab Police on 1 May 1986. 300 Sikh militants were captured, and there were no deaths or injuries for either side.<sup>[3]</sup>
- January 1988: The NSG conducted Op Black Hawk, a heliborne operation in the Mand area of Punjab. In this operation two terrorists were killed and one 7.62mm was recovered. It was a massive operation, says Ved Marwah, but did not get many spectacular results like in Black Thunder.<sup>[4]</sup>

- 12 May 1988: 1,000 NSG commandos (all ranks) surrounded the Golden Temple for yet another assault, in Operation Black Thunder II. Sniper teams armed with Heckler & Koch PSG-1 rifles with night scope took up positions, including atop a 300-foot water tower. While commandos from the 51 SAG divided into assault squadrons, the SRG were used to seal off the area around the temple and for tactical support. In the three-day operation between 15–18 May 1988, the NSG cleared the temple. 30 terrorists were killed, and 217 surrendered. In mid-1990s, a NSG battalion was again deployed in Punjab to confront the Sikh rioters. There they began training the Punjab Police in counter-terrorism.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 5 September – 15 January 1988: Guarding of high-risk terrorist code-named 'Jack'.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 4 August 1989: Operation Mouse Trap in the Tarn Taran district of Punjab, in conjunction with Punjab Police and other security forces. NSG was able to demonstrate that it was possible to achieve area dominance at night, if the strategy and tactics were right. Ved Marwah calls this Operation Night Dominance.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 10 November 1990: NSG task force flown to Kolkata to rescue hostages of a Thai airbus by Burmese students.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 25–26 January 1991: The NSG was involved in Operation Ani Ben, on CI tasks in Baroda, (Gujarat) where Punjab terrorists were holed up inside a house. Two terrorists were killed and two AK-47s were recovered.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 1 July-20 September 1991: NSG employed along with SIT in search and strike missions after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 25 November – 16 December 1992: 150 commandos were deployed at Ayodhya during the Ram Janambhoomi and Babri Masjid crisis.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 27 March 1993: 52 SAG mobilised and moved to Adampur for rescue of hostages of Indian Airlines Flight IC 486.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 24–25 April 1993: NSG Commandos storm a hijacked Indian Airlines Boeing 737 with 141 passengers on board at Amritsar airport during Operation Ashwamedh. Two hijackers, including their leader, Mohammed Yousuf Shah, are killed and one is disarmed before. No hostages are harmed.<sup>[1][2]</sup>
- October 1998: As part of the implementation of the Union Home Ministry's decision to conduct pro-active strikes against militants, commando teams supported by IAF Mi-25/35 helicopter gun-ships began striking at terrorist groups deep inside the mountains and forests of Kashmir. After helicopter reconnaissance were conducted to pinpoint the militants, the commandos – comprising NSG and Rashtriya Rifles personnel – were para-dropped, along with supplies, into the area to hunt the militants. They had to rely on these supplies and their ability to live off the land until replenishment every fortnight or so. These missions are possibly ongoing.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 15 July 1999: NSG commandos end a 30-hour standoff by killing 2 terrorists and rescuing all 12 hostages unharmed in J&K. The terrorists had attacked a BSF campus near Srinagar, killed 3 officers and the wife of another. The 12 hostages were kept locked in a room.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 21 August 1999: After interrogating three captured terrorists, the Delhi Police Crime branch confirmed that two more terrorists were hiding in a one-storied house in Rudrapur, Uttar Pradesh. Since the terrorists were considered armed and dangerous (their colleagues were arrested with 100+ pounds of RDX), the Delhi Police sought assistance from the NSG. A 16-man team arrived at the house at 4:45 am. They began their assault at 5:30 am, before first light. The first militant managed to fire at the commandos with a pistol he kept by his bedside, but was killed an instant later. The second terrorist was shot before he had a chance to fire and died 40 minutes later. No NSG personnel were injured.<sup>[1]</sup>
- December 1999: Terrorists hijacked Indian Airlines flight IC814 from Nepal, and landed in Amritsar, Punjab. Within minutes of landing, the Crisis Management Group (CMG), which authorised the use of the NSG, was informed. But the CMG wasted precious hours and by the time the go-ahead was issued, it is too late. On the other hand, the NSG team on alert was elsewhere and no other team was raised during the delay. The hijacked plane took off before the NSG reached Amritsar Airport. The plane landed in Kandahar, Afghanistan where one hostage was killed. Finally, the Indian Government agrees to the terrorists' demands to release three jailed



terrorists. The hostages are released and the terrorists escaped to Pakistan.<sup>[1]</sup>

- February 2000: Following the Flight IC 814 fiasco, the Indian Government decided to implement an Air Marshal programme. At least two NSG operators will be present on flights over select routes. These operators will be armed with weapons firing lethal, but low-velocity, fragmentation rounds to minimise danger to the passengers and prevent penetration of the aircraft. Another decision taken was to deploy NSG teams permanently at eight sensitive airports around the country, especially those bordering Pakistan and the North East. This decision will cut short reaction times for the NSG and eliminate hassles involved in flying the teams to the hijack site. It is not known if this plan has been put into action.<sup>[1]</sup>
- September 2002 – SAG commandos fly to the Karnataka state in India, in an effort to catch sandalwood smuggler and forest brigand Veerappan, in the wake of kidnapping of a former minister of the state cabinet, Nagappa. They pull out after suggesting that intelligence for the operation was inadequate. A small team is left behind to help, the hostage is eventually killed in December 2002.<sup>[1]</sup>
- October 2002 – Two terrorists attack Akshardham temple complex in Gujarat. NSG flies in, delayed by traffic in Delhi. They carry out assaults in which one commando is killed and another one is seriously injured and was in a coma, died after 18 months. But by morning the two terrorists are killed and the operation successfully completed.<sup>[1]</sup>
- December 2002 – Terrorists attack the Raghunath temple in Jammu. NSG ready to be flown out but called back at the last minute.<sup>[1]</sup>
- 26 November 2008 Mumbai attacks — Operation Black Tornado and Operation Cyclone to flush out terrorists & rescue hostages after multiple attacks across Mumbai, India. Major Sandeep Unnikrishnan and Havaladar Gajender Singh Bisht of the Special Action Group lost their lives during the operations. Over 900 rooms were scanned, 8 Terrorists killed and over 600 hostages rescued during the Operation.
- 2013 Hyderabad blasts – Deployed in Hyderabad after the bomb blasts.
- 2013 Bangalore Bomb Blast - NSG was deployed in Bangalore after the bomb blast took place in the city.

## Training

Three of their 14 months of training in Manesar, Haryana, are devoted to the basics. The basic training period lasts 90 days. Physical fitness training has 26 elements, ranging from an cross-country obstacle course to jumping from heights and across divides and scaling different kinds of terrain. One endurance test involves target shooting at the end of an obstacle-ridden cross-country run. This is meant to gauge the candidate's performance under conditions of stress and exhaustion. Those who successfully complete the tests are sent for nine months of advanced training. Only those who complete the entire course successfully are inducted into the NSG and given further specialised training, thus making them at par with the best forces around.

At the training, the commandos are trained to handle sophisticated communication equipment, combat gadgets and different kinds of arms/specialised weapons such as AK-47/74s, Browning hi-power 9mm pistol, 9mm Uzi sub-machine gun, 5.56mm M-16 A2, 9mm H&K MP5-A2/A3 and locally manufactured 7.62mm SLR and 5.56mm INSAS rifles. Sniper rifles such as the semi-automatic H&K 7.62mm PSG-1 and MSG-90, the SIG 7.62mm, SSG-2000 and the bolt-action Mauser SP66/86SR are also used to train members of the Special Action Group, which is specifically deployed for anti-terror/anti-hijacking operations.<sup>[1]</sup>

The probation grind saps the toughest of recruits and the drop out rate is 50 – 70%. For starters there is a 26-item, 780-metre obstacle course, with a qualifying time of 18 minutes. If a person completes the course in 25 minutes, he is deemed fit. The best do it in less than nine minutes. The obstacles have to do with heights, horizontal gaps and vertical scaling and are difficult to tackle in sequence. Then, there's a target shooting session at the end of the obstacle course meant to test the aspirant's performance under severe stress and exhaustion. Those who complete this course are recruited to the unit and sent for advanced training. Some operators are sent to Israel for advanced

training. Though it is not known exactly what training they receive, it could probably be the CT/HRT course with Unit 707. Some NSG personnel have received additional training in Israel and use weapons like the famed 9mm Uzi sub-machine gun. Their weapon of choice, however, is the Heckler & Koch family of 9mm sub-machine guns, the 7.62mm PSG-1 sniper weapon and the Heckler & Koch 512 12-gauge shotgun. Side arms include Glock 17 and Sig Sauer P226 9mm pistols. They are also armed with state-of-the-art surveillance gadgets and other sophisticated equipment. The unit is also parachute-trained, but is uncertain whether this capability includes free-fall (HALO/HAHO) and static-line or just the latter. The unit also has a bomb disposal squad.<sup>[1]</sup>

Advanced training also covers 'combat room shoot' in which commandos have to enter a dark room, adjust their vision to the darkness and shoot at a target within three seconds by torchlight or a compatible laser image intensifier. Similar training is also conducted under discomethèque strobe lights – conditions that are considered very difficult.

Shooting skills are honed at an electronic combat shooting range, which is divided into 11 zones and spread over 400-metres. Recruits have to cover the distance in 6.30 minutes and fire at 29 targets along the way, with the target exposure time is between two and three seconds and the targets are of all kinds – vertically rising, popping out, moving and rotating. The faster a person engages the target the more points he scores. It is not just non-reactive targets that they practice against. In twin room shooting, rival combatants enter contiguous rooms and watch each other's movements on a screen. They are supposed to neutralise each other by shooting at the screen. The exercise tests the combatants' response time and accuracy under near-field conditions. The men are also put through a battle inoculation program where they have to stand right next to the target while one of their partners shoots at it. "They have to become used to live bullets flying under their noses. Also the person shooting is conscious that if he misses by even a couple of inches the bullet is going to hit his partner," says an instructor. They don't wear the *kavach* either, a bullet-proof vest, designed by Colonel Dutta himself. The vest can withstand an AK-47 or a 7.62mm carbine shot at point blank range. Members of the unit are assigned partners soon after completion of basic training and they train and even go on leave together. But as crack professionals, they are under orders to shoot their partner if he makes a single threatening step detrimental to the security of a VIP. On an average, a commando fires 2000 rounds of live ammunition during practice sessions throughout the year. This is apart from the two months that units have to spend in alert status and for whom it's a daily stint at the range. "I did more firing in a week of alert status than in my entire 10-year stay in the Army," says an NSG officer. On average a person fires close to 14,000 rounds over a period of two months in alert status. After completing their training, commandos have to be on "alert status" mode for two months. During this period, the target strike rate has to be above 85% for a commando to remain in the force. The NSG simulates hundreds of realistic scenarios in daily drills – the key being fitness and surprise.

The NSG Training Centre is a Centre of Excellence and the National Bomb Data Centre holds international conferences. Both are located at Manesar in Haryana. The NSG HQ Exchange is located at Mehramnagar, Palam.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Former chiefs

The following have commanded the NSG in the past:<sup>[1]</sup>

- RT Nagrani
- MC Mishra
- KL Watts
- SD Pandey
- HP Bhatnagar
- Ved Marwah
- DVLN Ramakrishna Rao
- Dr S Subramanian
- RK Wadehra
- BJS Sial
- AK Tandon
- RD Tyagi
- GS Pandher
- T R Kakkar
- Nikhil Kumar
- Gurbachan Jagat
- Dr GS Rajagopal
- S C Chaube
- R.S. Mooshahary
- G S Rajgopal
- Jyoti Krishna Dutt
- NPS Aulakh
- R K Medhekar<sup>[1]</sup>
- Subhash joshi

## International competitions

10th International Combat Team Competition 2007 was conducted by GSG9 at Bonn, Germany from 2 to 7 Sep 2007. A total of 50 teams of various elite forces, predominantly from Europe, participated in the competition. NSG team won the obstacles cum endurance competition, a first for any team from Asian countries.

9th International Body Guards Tournament 2007 was conducted at Yalta, Ukraine from 17 to 22 Sep 2007. A total of 27 teams from various countries participated. NSG team had following achievements:

- 1st position in Team Firing Competition.
- 1st position and competition Record in individual Firing Competition by Naik Raj Kumar.

## Developments After 26/11

The NSG is working on a five-year plan to provide the best technology and training to the commandos. According to NSG Director General Rajan Medhekar, the commandos will be able to retaliate more effectively in the coming years. After modernisation, the commandos will be much better equipped with the latest weaponry. Every commando will be a unit in himself and will carry global positioning system (GPS), body wearable computers, automatic cameras, self-care medication and so on with him. The commander giving directions to commando on the task would be able to see him in action.

On a modernization spree post-26/11 attacks, the National Security Guards (NSG) has embarked on a project to create a super commando, what it calls the "future black cat", who will be armed with such state-of-the-art gadgets that will give live streaming of audio-visuals of a terror situation to a command and control centre in order to exchange information and take orders in real time. Sources say, this will cut down operation time, bring more precision, improve efficiency and reduce force casualties and aims to turn commandoes into "a walking system" than just armed men. The force has already conducted a trial run of the new system successfully during its training programmes and is hoping to make it operational within three years. These commandoes will be armed with gadgets such as multiple cameras, microphones, messaging services etc. which will send live feeds of the situation and help them receive fresh orders on strategy according to changed situation in real time. A senior NSG officer said, "Presently, we enter a situation based on inputs given by intelligence agencies or local police. The real scenario is at times found to be different from the input. Thus, the new situation requires a new command in real time, but that is not possible at the moment leading to delay and losses in operations." Mumbai attacks were a prime example of this disadvantage where the forces entering the Taj Mahal Hotel did not have any specific information on the exact number of terrorists holed up there, the layout of the hotel or where the terrorists may be holed up. NSG men were very much on their own once they entered the hotel. It also cost them the life of Major Unnikrishnan. Besides, several other gadgets being acquired include self-extinguishing fire suits, state-of-the-art bugs, camera-fitted eyewear, long-range bomb detection equipment and Taser guns. While self-extinguishing bomb suits, which self-douse fire within three seconds, will protect commandoes from being burnt, Taser guns that temporarily paralyse victims will be used in situations where civilians and terrorists may be mixed. In case of the latter the gun will paralyse the victim until he can be identified lessening the chance of civilian casualties in a hostage situation. It can also be used in VIP security.<sup>[4]</sup>

NSG is sharing training and technology with world's best agencies from France, Israel, Germany and other countries. In future, NSG has plans to perform this training with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States special operations forces. The NSG is now equipped with remote control improved explosive device (RCIED) bomb jammer. The jammer is effective in the range of up to 100 meters. By getting this, the force can more powerfully counter terrorism.<sup>[1]</sup>

Learning from the experience of the 2008 Mumbai attacks, the National Security Guards (NSG) is set to bring on board "tactical negotiators" who can be used by the agency to interact with terrorists in a hostage situation in the event of a terror attack in future. The Home Ministry has approved NSG's proposal to allow it to hire such

professionals who can be psychological experts and help the security agencies in negotiating with terrorists when civilians are taken hostage, like what happened during the Mumbai 26/11 attacks. At present, usually a senior police official or a top Intelligence official is roped in for such negotiations who may not be the best person for the job given the lack of expertise. A source in the NSG said the force is studying the concept of professional negotiators in elite commando forces in the US and UK where talented professionals in the field of psychology and professors of universities act as resource persons or a permanent group used by them for negotiations in a hostage situation. The tactical negotiators desired by the NSG should have good communication and persuasive skills and must be capable of understanding realtime behavioural patterns, language and dialect of the terrorists in the event of a communication channel opening up during a hostage situation.

During the 26/11 attacks, Pakistani terrorists holed up in Nariman House had called up the Israeli embassy in Washington to negotiate for the release of several Israeli hostages inside the building. In fact, one of the terrorists told the Israeli officials to ask India to release the captured terrorist Ajmal Kasab in exchange for the hostages. The Israeli officials, who had to depend on an interpreter to talk to the terrorists, tried to negotiate the release but failed as the terrorists killed all the hostages. The 26/11 terrorists holed up at Oberoi Hotel had also called up a private TV channel saying they were Indians hailing from Hyderabad and demanded the release of all terrorists in Indian jails. During the IC 814 hostage situation in Kandahar in 1999, the then Intelligence Bureau chief Ajit Doval along with Nehchal Sandhu, who went on to become the IB chief, were the chief negotiators. The hostage episode on foreign soil in Afghanistan ended after India agreed to free three dreaded terrorists in exchange for 175 passengers on board. Doval later admitted pressure from government and hysteria back home by relatives of passengers prevented the negotiators from getting the hijackers to scale down their demand to release just one terrorist.<sup>[5]</sup>

Hyderabad will turn into a training hub of the elite 'Black Cats' by mid-2014. With the ministry of home affairs (MHA) giving its nod and sanctioning Rs 533.68 crore a few months ago, the National Security Guard (NSG) officials are gearing up to set up the Southern Regional Center (SRC) at Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad for training commandos. With the state government also handing over 600 acres at Ibrahimpatnam, the SRC is likely to be ready by next year. Tender notices have already been issued for civil works, which would be overseen by the Central Public Works Department. With this, Hyderabad would have an NSG hub at Trimulgherry as well as the SRC for training 'Black Cats'. As of now, nearly 300 commandos, ready for anti-terror operations round-the-clock, are stationed at the NSG hub at Trimulgherry. Similar hubs are in place in Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. The proposal to set up a state-of-the-art NSG training centre at Ibrahimpatnam on the lines of NSG Manesar training centre has been pending for over three years. But the MHA officials, in their annual report released recently, announced the release of funds for developing infrastructure. "Post the 26/11 Mumbai terror strike, four regional hubs of NSG were operationalised in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata to reduce reaction time. A regional centre at Hyderabad is also being raised, for which 600 acres of land has been acquired. MHA has conveyed sanction of Rs 533.68 crore towards the construction of this Southern Regional Centre, NSG at Ibrahimpatnam," the MHA report said. With this, the state would have two trained anti-terror striking forces. Besides the NSG, the Andhra Pradesh police's OCTOPUS, which also has a training facility at Ibrahimpatnam, has a strength of over 250 personnel. NSG and OCTOPUS personnel, who undergo a gruelling training, including handling sophisticated weapons, commandos are sent back to their parent department once they attain the age of 35, ensuring that the force remains young and fighting fit.<sup>[6]</sup>

## Criticism

### Delayed response time

There have been several occasions where the lack of proper transportation has hampered the response time of the unit. This was evident during the 1999 hijacking of Indian Airlines Flight 814 when the unit was stuck in rush hour traffic due to a lack of helicopters. During the Mumbai attacks, the unit was delayed due to lack of aircraft in Delhi and then lack of ground transportation in Mumbai.<sup>[7][8]</sup>

In response to criticism of the time taken for the NSG commandos to arrive in Mumbai from their base in Manesar, Haryana during the November 2008 Mumbai attacks, the Government of India has decided to deploy NSG contingents in major cities across India like Mumbai, Kolkata (462 personnel<sup>[1]</sup>), Hyderabad and Chennai.<sup>[9]</sup>

### VIP protection duties

The task of providing VVIP security for high-risk VVIPs in India is done by the Special Rangers Group (SRG) of the NSG. A large number of SRG personnel are assigned as bodyguards for various political leaders leaving a significantly lesser number of rangers who may be able to assist when the need arises.<sup>[10]</sup> However, after a recent media uproar, many of the NSG commandos were reassigned from their bodyguard positions back to active duty.<sup>[11]</sup> As of July 2012, there are 15 VIPs/VVIPs under the NSG security cover. The NSG has decided to pull out the 11th SRG, with its 900 commandos, from VIP protection duties to perform specialist counter-terror and counter-hijack operations. There are plans to convert the 12th SRG to purely counter-terror duties as well.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Equipment

All the equipment for the NSG is manufactured indigenously by the Indian Ordnance Factories controlled by the Ordnance Factories Board, Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

- Browning Hi-Power 9mm Semi-automatic pistol
  - Glock 17 and Glock 19 9mm Semi-automatic Pistol
  - SIG P226 9mm Semi-automatic Pistol
  - Heckler & Koch M512 12-gauge Shotgun
  - 1A SMG 9mm Sub-machine gun
  - Heckler & Koch MP5 – A3, A5, SD3, SD6, K and K-PDW 9mm Submachine Gun
  - AKM 7.62x39mm Assault Rifle
  - Beretta AR70/90 5.56mm NATO Assault Rifle
  - SIG SG 551 5.56mm NATO Carbine
  - Mauser SP66 7.62mm NATO Bolt-Action Sniper Rifle
  - Steyr SSG 69 7.62mm NATO Bolt-Action Sniper Rifle
  - SIG-Sauer SSG 2000 7.62mm NATO Bolt-Action Sniper Rifle
  - Heckler & Koch MSG-90 7.62mm NATO Semi-Automatic Sniper Rifle
  - Heckler & Koch PSG1 7.62mm NATO Semi-Automatic Sniper Rifle
  - AGS-17 30mm automatic grenade launcher
-

## Upgrades after 26/11

- CornerShot Guns<sup>[12]</sup>
- Laser Designator
- Advance Audio Communication Set
- GPS & GPRS Technological Systems
- Wall Surveillance Radars
- Portable X-RAY MACHINE
- Night Vision Devices
- Protective Goggles
- Special Tactical Gears
- Thermal Imaging Cameras<sup>[13]</sup>
- Mini Remotely Operated Vehicles
- Non skid shoes
- Ghillie suits
- Helmet with in built hands free communication
- Level 3 bullet-proof vest
- Knee pad and elbow pads
- SIG SG 553
- Taser
- Chartered helicopters and ability to use civilian aircraft for emergencies.
- Anti-Materiel Rifles like the OFB produced Vidhwansak and possibly the Russian made OSV-96.

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# State Armed Police Forces

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The **State Armed Police Forces**<sup>[1]</sup> of India are the police units for dealing with serious law and order situations requiring a higher level of armed expertise than normal. The State Armed Police Forces exist in addition to the ordinary police services of the various states.

All states have different title for their armed police units. In addition to the term "Armed Police", other titles in different states include **Special Armed Police**, **Armed Constabulary**, **Provincial Armed Constabulary**, **Pradeshik** and **State Military Police**. Although the titles are different, their organisation, weapons, equipment and tasks are nearly the same. The central government of India now refers to these forces nationwide as the State Armed Police Forces and discourages use of the term "paramilitary". However, this terminology does not necessarily coincide with the existing terminology of the states of India; For example, the state of Bihar calls its state armed police force "Military Police", which clashes with central government definitions of "military" and "paramilitary". It is not yet clear whether such discrepancies will be resolved.

The State Armed Police act as a mobile armed reserve activated only on the orders from the Additional Commissioner of Police or above. They are not usually in contact with the public except during public events, civil unrest, and natural disasters. They maintain key guard posts and participate in antiterrorist operations. Depending on the type of assignment, they may be or may not be carrying firearms.

Within states, each police district may maintain its own teams of policemen with higher firearms competence. Such teams, known as "district armed police", are for purely local use and are not part of the State Armed Police Forces.

## Madhya Pradesh Special Armed Police

The main objective of this Department is to maintain Law and Order in the State. The responsibility of this Special Armed Force is to look after the law and arrangement and also to control the areas affected by Naxalites, Social Courtesies, removal of bandits. Other than this they are active against Natural calamities like Flood, Earthquake etc. Moreover these special forces are active in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and in the States of South to control the terrorism in these places.

## Bihar Military Police

The Bihar Military Police is the state armed police force for Bihar. It is currently frequently involved in clashes with Maoist rebels. The force has been expanding since 2006 to deal with the Maoist insurgency. In the past the BMP was perceived as being hostile to the Bihari Muslim minority,<sup>[2]</sup> but today a disproportionate number of BMP officers are Bihari Muslims.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Kerala Armed Police

In Kerala, the armed police trace their origins to the early stages of the Kerala Police.

The armed police units of Kerala are:

- The Malabar Special Police
- The Kerala Armed Police Battalions (numbered I to V)
- The Kerala Special Armed Police
- The State Rapid Action Force.

The "Inspector General of Police, Armed Police Battalions", is the controlling authority who is assisted by the "Deputy Inspector General of Police, Armed Police Battalions". Each Battalion is under the control of a "Commandant" with the rank of Superintendent of Police.

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The Special Armed Police was formed in 1955 by the then Travancore-Cochin government with its Headquarters at Thiruvananthapuram. Besides law and order duties in the southern range, Special Armed Police personnel are assigned to guard duties at the Raj Bhavan (Government House), Police Headquarters, etc. For the welfare of their personnel, the S.A.P have a canteen, a gymnasium, a hospital with lab facilities and a nursery school. At present this battalion has a strength of seven companies.

## **Orissa Special Armed Police**

Orissa's state armed police are called the Special Armed Police (SAP). They were formed in 1946 as the Orissa Military Police, and the current name was adopted in 1980. There are currently 8 regular battalions and one reserve battalion. The headquarters of the SAP is at state Police Headquarters in Cuttack. The force is under the general control and direction of the Director General and the Inspector General of Police.

The Orissa Military Police was formed on 1 March 1946 by the Orissa Military Police Act (Orissa Act VII of 1946). Soon after its creation this force had to handle serious situations in places like Bhadrak, Ib, Barang, Rampur, Cuttack etc. Due to strenuous nature of work of the military police and need for more personnel its strength was increased in 1947 and 1948. The strength was further increased with the formation of a Gurkha Military Police unit. On 1 st March 1948, after merger of feudatory States in the Province of Orissa, there was a re-organisation of the police organisation and the 2nd Battalion of the Orissa Military police was established. This battalion had both Gurkha and Oriya companies. While the battalion headquarters was at Dhenkanal, two detachment camps of this battalion were functioning at Nayagarh and Jharsuguda. Subsequently, other battalions were formed in different parts of the state.

## **Punjab Armed Police**

The Punjab Armed Police (PAP) have their headquarters at a base called PAP Jalandhar. This is where armed policemen of the Punjab are trained. Before the Border Security Force came into existence, PAP used to protect the most sensitive border of the country common with Pakistan. PAP Jawans have a number of international players in hockey, weight lifting, volleyball, kabaddi, etc. The campus is in a huge area and is complete in itself in the areas of housing, sports grounds, training equipment, halls, schools, hospital, swimming pool etc.

The operational PAP units are:

- 7th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Jalandhar Cantt
  - 9th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Amritsar
  - 13th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Chandigarh
  - 27th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Jalandhar Cantt
  - 36th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Bahadurgarh Patiala
  - 75th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Jalandhar Cantt
  - 80th Battalion, headquartered at PAP Jalandhar Cantt
  - 82nd Battalion, headquartered at PAP Chandigarh
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## Rajasthan Armed Constabulary

Rajasthan's main state armed police are the Rajasthan Armed Constabulary (RAC). There is also another smaller armed unit called the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS). Each of these two forces is one of the eight "wings" of the Rajasthan Police. In addition to their other duties, the RAC are deployed to counter lawlessness in Rajasthan's dense forests, such as attacks on foresters, illegal grazing, illegal mining, and poaching.

## Uttar Pradesh Provincial Armed Constabulary

In Uttar Pradesh, the Provincial Armed Constabulary or *Pradeshik Armed Constabulary* (PAC) is an armed reserve maintained at key locations across state and active only on orders from the deputy inspector general and higher-level authorities. It is usually assigned to VIP duty or to maintain order during fairs, festivals, athletic events, elections, and natural disasters. They are also deployed to quell outbreaks of student or labor unrest, organized crime, and communal riots; to maintain key guard posts; and to participate in antiterrorist operations. The Provincial Armed Constabulary usually carries only *lathis*. UP-PAC consists of several battalions located in different cities across the state as a wing of Uttar Pradesh Police. Each battalion has seven to eight companies consisting of 150 to 200 Jawans. The PAC is headed by the Director General Provincial Armed Constabulary (DG PAC).<sup>[4][5]</sup>

## West Bengal armed police forces

Unlike other states of India, the state of West Bengal has two separate police jurisdictions, that of the West Bengal Police, and that of the Kolkata Police Force. It therefore has two separate state armed police structures, one for each jurisdiction. Special forces of West Bengal are STRACO Force and Counter Insurgency Force.

## Eastern Frontier Rifles

The Eastern Frontier Rifles (EFR) are the state armed police force for the West Bengal Police (i.e. as opposed to the police in Kolkata).

### History

The Eastern Frontier Rifles were founded as the Frontier Protection Force by the East India Company at some point in the second half of the 18th century, and have had their current title since 1920. The Eastern Frontier Rifles fought in the Second World War, and, as the Bengal Military Police, in the First World War.

- 18th century: Founded as Frontier Protection Force.
- 1795: Renamed Ramgarh Local Battalion
- 1861: Renamed Frontier Guards
- 1891: Renamed Bengal Military Police, modernised, & given up-to-date weaponry (NB: An unrelated unit had previously used the same title)
- 1920: Reorganised and renamed Eastern Frontier Rifles
- 1947: The force was split between the Indian state of West Bengal, and Pakistan. The Pakistani part became the East Pakistan Rifles, which became the Bangladesh Rifles when Bangladesh became independent, and Border Guards Bangladesh in 2010. The West Bengal part retained its title of Eastern Frontier Rifles.

### Recent events

Many contingents of EFR are kept deployed in various disturbed areas of the state. However, in recent years the force has used for day-to-day law & order duties. The headquarter of EFR at Salua, near Kharagpur.

Like the armed police forces of many states, the EFR are currently challenged with the naxalite insurgency. In February 2010 an EFR camp called Silda was attacked and burnt down by maoist rebels, resulting in 24 riflemen killed out of a detachment of about fifty. This resulted in condemnation of the state government by the EFR Special Inspector General, Benoy Chakraborty, who claimed his force was "mis-used" and "ill-treated". Morale in the force is believed to be low.<sup>[6]</sup>

### Kolkata Armed Police

The Kolkata Armed Police (KAP) are West Bengal's state armed police force for operations in Kolkata. The KAP is part of the Kolkata Police Force and consists of eight battalions, and three special units. The special units are the Rapid Action force (RAF), the Special Action Force (SAF) (approx. 160 members) and the Commando Force (approximately 200 members) and also have Combat Force .

### Mizoram Armed Police

The Mizoram Armed Police (MAP) consist of 3 battalions with 5 Indian Reserve Battalion. All these components make up the Mizoram Armed Police. Each battalion is commanded by a Commandant of rank Superintendent of Police / Deputy Commissioner of Police / Commandant. Each battalion also have a special commando/SWAT unit.

### Equipment

The Indian Ordnance Factories controlled by the Ordnance Factories Board, Ministry of Defence, Government of India are the sole suppliers of equipment to all the State Armed Police Forces.

- INSAS rifle in 5.56mm NATO in various configurations.
  - M4 Carbine purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - Beretta 92 pistol purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - Sako TRG limited quantity purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - AK 47: mostly Bulgarian.
  - AKM: modernised version of AK – 47 Assault Rifles.
  - Browning HP: Indian version in 9mm.
  - Type 56: Chinese version of AK 47 misunderstood as AK 56 mostly surrendered arms of the Mizo National Front.
  - Bren LMG: Indian version chambering 7.62 NATO rounds.
  - Sterling submachine gun: Indian version.
  - SLR: Indian version of FN FAL.
  - Apart from this, Mizoram Armed Police also use a large number of firearms captured from militants including the G3 Rifle, M16 Rifle, Dragunov Sniper Rifle etc.
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# Malabar Special Police

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Malabar Special Police	
<b>Active</b>	1884 – Present
<b>Country</b>	India
<b>Type</b>	Paramilitary
<b>Role</b>	Auxiliary police
<b>Size</b>	7 companies
<b>Headquarters</b>	Malappuram
Commanders	
<b>Superintendent of Police.</b>	U.Sharaffali

The **Malabar Special Police** (MSP) is a paramilitary unit of the State Police of Kerala, India. This unit also trains new recruits and also helps the local police units to maintain law and order during emergencies. During emergencies, this unit forms the riot police platoons fully equipped with riot gear. This police unit is known for its extraordinarily tough training, and the high quality of its firing and military drills.

## History

Formed in 1884, the MSP were initially known as the Malappuram Special Police, having been quartered in Malappuram. Its initial personnel consisted of 80 Constables, 4 Native Head Constables, 4 Sergeants, a Bugler and a European Inspector, who were temporarily drafted into a special force to deal with periodical outbreaks of Muslim fanaticism by Moplahs. The squad was made permanent in 1897.

In the 1921 Moplah Revolt, Malabar (the present districts of Kannur, Wayanad, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad and parts of Thrissur) witnessed a wave of popular unrest and other law and order problems. Mr. Hitchcock who was then the District Superintendent of Police, South Malabar realized the imperative need to raise a special force, organized, armed and equipped on the lines of an Indian infantry battalion to deal effectively problems threatening public peace. This suggestion, strongly endorsed by the District Magistrate, was accepted by the Viceroy's Government on 30 September 1921, which then sanctioned a strength of 6 British Officers, 8 Subedars, 16 Jemadars, 60 Havildars and 600 Constables to be formed into 6 companies of Auxiliary Police.

This was the beginning of the Malabar Special Police. As they were run by the British government and often used to quell native disturbances, the MSP were seen as a symbol of colonial oppression, a view that continues to hold sway today. On the eve of the linguistic reorganization of States in 1956, the MSP was divided into two. One half of the 6 companies and half of the Headquarters company fell to the share of Kerala and the other half allotted to Madras. Presently the MSP is headquartered at Malappuram.

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# Uttar Pradesh Provincial Armed Constabulary

**Uttar Pradesh Provincial Armed Constabulary** or *Pradeshik Armed Constabulary*, (**UP-PAC**) or just (**PAC**) is an armed reserve of Uttar Pradesh. It is maintained at key locations across state and active only on orders from the deputy inspector general and higher-level authorities. It is usually assigned to VIP duty or to maintain order during fairs, festivals, athletic events, elections, and natural disasters. They are also deployed to quell outbreaks of student or labor unrest, organized crime, and communal riots; to maintain key guard posts; and to participate in antiterrorist operations. The Provincial Armed Constabulary usually carries only *lathis*. UP-PAC consists of several battalions located in different cities across the state as a wing of Uttar Pradesh Police. Each battalion has seven to eight companies consisting of 150 to 200 *Jawans*. The PAC is headed by the Director General Provincial Armed Constabulary (DG PAC).<sup>[1][2]</sup>

## Awards

Mohammad Isa Company Commander of IV Battalion of the UP-PAC stationed at Allahabad was awarded *Police Medal for Gallantry* on 14 January 1957 for his successful encounter with armed dacoits in a forest near the Kurat village.<sup>□</sup>

## History

Following is the summary of events related to UP-PAC:<sup>[2]</sup>

- 1940: Founded as United Provinces Military Police
- 1948: United Provinces Military Police and United Provinces State Armed Constabulary were amalgamated into the United Provinces Provincial Armed Constabulary by enactment of The U.P. Pradeshik Armed Constabulary Act, 1948 - Uttar Pradesh<sup>[3]</sup>
- 1950: Renamed to Uttar Pradesh Provincial Armed Constabulary due change of name of state
- 1956: Renamed to Uttar Pradesh Pradeshik Armed Constabulary by enactment of U.P. Act XXX of 1956

A unit called Special Police Force (SPF) previously existed to operate in cooperation with Indian Army. In the 1990s the SPF was merged into the 9th battalion of the PAC, which is situated in Moradabad.

In May 1973 UP-PAC revolted and army was called in to control. About 30 policemen were killed and hundreds were arrested.<sup>□</sup> In 1982 two petitions to disband UP-PAC were filed in Supreme Court.<sup>□</sup>

## Allegations related to human rights violations

UP-PAC had been alleged to be involved in number of human rights violation cases,<sup>□</sup> the blames include:

- worsening the situation during 1978 Aligarh riots,
- massacring more than 150 people during 1980 Moradabad riots,
- instigating communal violence in Meerut in 1982
- massacring over 40 people, all Muslims from the Hashimpura *mohalla* (locality) of the Meerut city in the incidence known as Hashimpura massacre,<sup>□</sup>
- looting the markets in Kanpur while on duty in 2001<sup>□</sup>

## Recent events

In 2001 the Maoists looted 14 SLRs from Khoradih UP-PAC camp in Mirzapur. In November 2004 the Naugarh landmine blast by Maoists in Chandauli district in which naxalites ambushed a police party, killing 17 policemen, 13 UP-PAC *jawans* and 4 UP-Police constables.<sup>[1]</sup> During 2013 North India floods UP-PAC and Army rescue teams shifted 25,000 to 30,000 people to safer places from flooded villages in Uttar Pradesh.<sup>[2]</sup>

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# Eastern Frontier Rifles

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The **Eastern Frontier Rifles (EFR)** are the State Armed Police Force for West Bengal in the West Bengal Police jurisdiction (i.e. as opposed to the Kolkata jurisdiction). They are part of the West Bengal Police.

Border Guards Bangladesh are descended from the portion of the Eastern Frontier Rifles given to Pakistan on partition in 1947.

The Eastern Frontier Rifles were founded as the Frontier Protection Force by the East India Company at some point in the second half of the eighteenth century, and have had their current title since 1920. The Eastern Frontier Rifles fought in the Second World War, and, as the Bengal Military Police, in the First World War.

In 1947, when India and Pakistan became independent, the force was split between the Indian state of West Bengal, and Pakistan. The Pakistani part became the East Pakistan Rifles, which became the Bangladesh Rifles when Bangladesh became independent, and Border Guards Bangladesh in 2010. The West Bengal part retained its title of Eastern Frontier Rifles.

## History

- 18th century: Founded as Frontier Protection Force.
- 1795: Renamed Ramgarh Local Battalion
- 1861: Renamed Frontier Guards
- 1891: Renamed Bengal Military Police, modernised, & given up-to-date weaponry (NB: An unrelated unit, the 45th Sikhs, had previously used this same title)
- 1920: Reorganised and renamed Eastern Frontier Rifles
- 1947: Split between West Bengal and Pakistan. The West Bengal portion retained the unit title

## Recent events

Many contingents of EFR are kept deployed in various disturbed areas of the state. However, in recent years the force has used for day-to-day law & order duties. The headquarter of EFR at Salua, near Kharagpur.

Like the armed police forces of many states, the EFR are currently challenged with the naxalite insurgency. In February 2010 an EFR camp called Silda was attacked and burnt down by maoist rebels, resulting in 24 riflemen killed out of a detachment of about fifty. This resulted in condemnation of the state government by the EFR Special Inspector General, Benoy Chakraborty, who claimed his force was "mis-used" and "ill-treated". Morale in the force is believed to be low.<sup>[1]</sup>

## References

[1] <http://www.topnews.in/law/eastern-frontier-rifles-misused-illtreated-29023>

# Mizoram Armed Police

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**Mizoram Armed Police** (MAP) is a Special Unit in the Police Department and one of India's State Armed Police Forces of Ministry of Home in the State of Mizoram, India. At present it comprises 3 Battalions with an additional 3 Indian Reserve Battalions. Each Battalion is Commanded by a Commandant (rank of Senior Superintendent of Police) with other officers.

## The 1st Battalion Mizoram Armed Police

The first Battalion of Mizoram Armed Police was constituted on August 1, 1973 by drafting personnel from the then District Armed Branch of the erstwhile Lushai Hills District of Assam State. The main purpose was to meet the permanent and regular requirements of the Armed Police of the newly created Mizoram Union Territory (U.T.). This unit covers duties in the district as the Armed Reserve Force, like permanent guards and other permanent duties, escort duty for the Treasury, VIPs, prisoners, etcetera. The 1st Bn. MAP, therefore, performed dual functions as both the District Armed Branch and the State Armed Reserve since its inception. In fact, the 1st Bn. MAP catered to the Armed Police needs of Mizoram single-handedly for fifteen years before other Battalions were raised. That period included the year of turmoil, which Mizoram had undergone due to disturbances.

## The 2nd Battalion Mizoram Armed Police

The establishment of 2nd Bn. MAP was started with a strength of two companies in the year 1982 vide letter No. A.12028/1/82-HMP dt. 23.12.1982 from Home Department Government of Mizoram. Four more companies were created and sanctioned vide letter No.A.12028/1/92-HMP dt. 9.10.1987 from Home Department Government of Mizoram and the establishment of a full-fledged 2nd Bn. MAP began on that same date. The two companies of 2nd Bn. MAP were functioning from 1st Bn. Map Headquarters, Aizawl for four years, and following the sanction of full fledged 2nd Bn. MAP, it was shifted to Lunglei on 27.4.1988. The Office of SDPO Lunglei was temporarily utilized as the Main Office of 2nd Bn. MAP, until it was shifted to 2nd Bn. MAP Headquarters, Luangmual on 6.3.1989.

## The 3rd Battalion Mizoram Armed Police

The Government of Mizoram notification A.12028/2/88-HMP Dt. 9.1.1991 and A-12028/2/88-HMP dt. 21.11.1991 paved the way for creation of what came to be known as 4Coy Cell, under the leadership of an Asst. Commandant with a handful of staff. It has functioned since 2.2.91 at 1st Bn. MAP Complex under the direct supervision of AIG-II. In the 1st week of December 1991 its Office was shifted to Police Headquarters. On 23.9.92 the Govt. of Mizoram Home Department vide its order No. 12023/4/92-HMA sanctioned a post of Commandant. Pu. L.H. Shanliana, MPS was appointed its 1st Commandant on 9.11.92 as 4Coy Cell transitioned into another full fledged Battalion known as the 3rd Bn. MAP. On 10.11.92, the Office was shifted from PHQ to Mualpui, occupying an area of 286377 sq. m. The Revenue Department vide its letter No. 15016/106/91-DTE(Rev) dt. 15.9.95 accorded a proper pass No. 169 of 1976. Ever since its designation as 3rd Bn. MAP on its Rising Day i.e. 9.11.92, each successive Commandant has worked tirelessly to make this battalion into the pioneering success it has become.

## **The 1st Indian Reserve Battalion**

The 1st Indian Reserve Battalion for Mizoram was approved and sanctioned by the govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi vide Memo No.II.27011.3.91-FP.III dated New Delhi, the 11.6.1993 and various posts were subsequently created by the Govt. of Mizoram, vide home Department Memo No.12028/5/92-HMP dated 1.12.1993.

## **The 2nd Indian Reserve Battalion**

The 2nd Indian Reserve Battalion was created on 15.1.2001, with plans for its headquarters at Khawzawl. Because the site was not yet fully developed, the unit was allowed to function temporarily out of Police Headquarters Khatla, Aizawl with the bulk of its forces stationed at 3rd MAP Battalion Complex, Mualpui, Aizawl. In the meantime, construction of about 26 different buildings including living quarters and other support facilities were commenced at Khawzawl. Upon completion of the newest site in early 2005 and with the approval of Police Headquarters Khatla, this Battalion Headquarters was shifted to Khawzawl during the month of April 2005 and an Inaugural Function was held on 28.4.2005.

## **Location**

The Headquarters Khawzawl is perched on a hilltop, on the Eastern side of Mizoram, along the Aizawl-Champhai road, about 157 km away from Aizawl at 93.10 latitude and 23.10 degree longitude in the global positioning. The altimeter reading at the highest point is 1187 meter from the sea level. The town has good communication link i.e. Aizawl-Champhai road passes through the town As per the weatherman's record, the climate is 30 degree at the maximum (86 degrees Fahrenheit) and 4.5 degree minimum (approx. 40 degrees Fahrenheit) in the Celsius. Approximate annual rainfall is 1751mm.

## **Weapons**

All the equipment for the Mizoram Police are manufactured indigenously by the Indian Ordnance Factories controlled by the Ordnance Factories Board, Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

- INSAS rifle in 5.56mm NATO in various configurations.
  - M4 Carbine purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - H&K MP5 purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - Glock 17 pistol purchased under Police Modernization scheme.
  - AK 47: mostly Bulgarian.
  - AKM: modernised version of AK - 47 Assault Rifles.
  - Browning HP: Indian version in 9mm.
  - Type 56: Chinese version of AK 47 misunderstood as AK 56 mostly surrendered arms of the Mizo National Front.
  - Bren LMG: Indian version chambering 7.62 NATO rounds.
  - Sterling submachine gun: Indian version.
  - SLR: Indian version of FN FAL.
  - Apart from this, Mizoram Armed Police also use a large number of firearms captured from militants including the G3 Rifle, M16 Rifle, Dragunov Sniper Rifle etc.
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## References

- Mizoram Armed Police <sup>[1]</sup>
- <http://www.sinlung.com/2010/09/mizoram-police-to-get-latest-weapons.html>

## References

- [1] <http://police.mizoram.gov.in/ArmBra.htm/>

# Ordnance Factories Board

## Ordnance Factories Board

<b>Type</b>	Government
<b>Industry</b>	Defence
<b>Founded</b>	1775 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Headquarters</b>	Ayudh Bhawan, Kolkata
<b>Area served</b>	Worldwide
<b>Key people</b>	A. K. Antony (Defence Minister of India) H. S. Chaudhury (Director General Ordnance Factories & Chairman, OFB)
<b>Products</b>	Small arms, Aircraft & Naval weapons, Anti-tank warfare, Anti-aircraft warfare, Anti-ship warfare, Anti-submarine warfare, Grenade launchers, Rocket launchers, Shell launchers, Missile launchers, Rockets, Bombs, Grenades, Military vehicles, Engines, Armoured vehicles, Chemical warfare, Optoelectronics, Cables, Parachutes, Mines, Demolition charges, Pyrotechnic stores, Fire control systems, Bridges, Assault boats, Clothing, Leather Items, Mortars, Artillery, Ammunition, Propellants, Explosives, Fuzes.
<b>Revenue</b>	₹ 144.657675 billion (US\$2.3 billion)(2011-2012) <sup>[2][3]</sup>
<b>Employees</b>	~164,000 <sup>[4]</sup>
<b>Website</b>	ofb.gov.in <sup>[5]</sup>

**Ordnance Factories Board (OFB)**, consisting of the **Indian Ordnance Factories** (Hindi: भारतीय आयुध निर्माणियाँ), is an industrial setup functioning under the Department of Defence Production of Ministry of Defence, Government of India. It is engaged in production, testing, logistics, research, development and marketing of a comprehensive product range in the areas of land, air and sea systems. Headquartered at Ayudh Bhawan, Kolkata, it consists of forty-one Factories, nine Training Institutes, three Regional Marketing Centres and four Regional Controllerates of Safety.

OFB is the world's largest government operated production organisation<sup>[6]</sup> and the oldest industrial setup run by the Government of India.<sup>[7][8]</sup> It has a total workforce of about 164,000.<sup>[4]</sup> It is often called the "Fourth Arm of Defence"<sup>[9][10][11]</sup> and the "Force Behind the Armed Forces" of India.<sup>[12][13]</sup> It is also amongst the top 100 arms manufacturers in the world and was ranked at 48 in the list released by disarmament watchdog SIPRI for 2011, down from 45 in 2010. Its total sales were at \$2.655 billion, with arms sales bringing in about 80 percent of its revenue.<sup>[2][14]</sup> Every year, 18 March is celebrated as the Ordnance Factories' Day in India.<sup>[1]</sup>

## History

### Beginning

The history and development of Indian ordnance factories is directly linked with the British reign in India. The East India Company considered military hardware to be a vital element for securing their economic interest in India and increasing their political power. In 1775 British authorities accepted the establishment of the Board of Ordnance at Fort William, Calcutta. This marks the official beginning of the Army Ordnance in India.

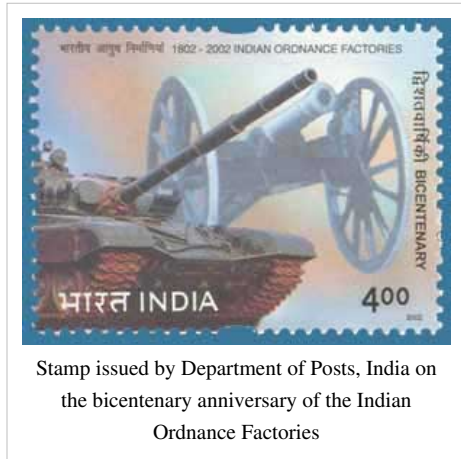
In 1787 a gunpowder factory was established at Ichapore; it began production in 1791, and the site was later used as a rifle factory beginning in 1904. In 1801, Gun Carriage Agency (now known as Gun & Shell Factory, Cossipore) was established at Cossipore, Calcutta, and production began on 18 March 1802. This is the oldest ordnance factory in India still in existence.<sup>[15]</sup>

## Growth

The growth of the Ordnance Factories Board leading to its present setup has been continuous but sporadic. There were eighteen ordnance factories before India became independent in 1947 and twenty-three factories have been established after independence, mostly in the wake of defence preparedness imperatives brought about by the three major wars fought by the Indian Armed forces.

## Main Events

- 1801 - Establishment of Gun Carriage Agency at Cossipore, Kolkata.
- 1802 - Production begins at Cossipore on 18 March.
- 1906 - The Administration of Indian Ordnance Factories comes under a separate charge as "IG of Ordnance Factories".
- 1933 - Charged to "Director of Ordnance Factories".
- 1948 - Placed under direct control of Ministry of Defence.
- 1962 - Department of Defence Production was set up at Ministry of Defence.
- 1979 - Ordnance Factories Board is established on 2 April.



Stamp issued by Department of Posts, India on the bicentenary anniversary of the Indian Ordnance Factories

## Infrastructure and leadership

### Headquarters

- Armoured Vehicle Head Quarters (AVHQ)
- Ordnance Equipment Factories Head Quarters (OEFHQ)
- Ordnance Factory Board, New Delhi Office (OFBDEL)
- Ordnance Factory Board Kolkata (OFBHQ)
- Ordnance Factory Board, Mumbai Office (OFBMUM)
- Ordnance Factories Recruitment Board (OFRB)

### Apex Board

The Apex Board is headed by the Director General of Ordnance Factories (DGOF), who acts as the Chairman of the Board (equivalent to Secretary, Government of India) and consists of nine other members, who each hold the rank of Additional DGOF. Ordnance Factories are divided into 5 operating divisions, depending upon the type of the main products/technologies employed. These are :

- Ammunition and Explosives (A&E)
- Weapons, Vehicles & Equipment (WV&E)
- Materials and Components (M&C)
- Armoured Vehicle (AV)
- Ordnance Equipment Group of Factories (OEF)



The Ayudh Bhawan, Kolkata.

Each of the above group of factories is headed by a Member/Additional DGOF. The four remaining Members are responsible for staff functions, viz Personnel (Per), Finance (Fin), Planning & Material Management (P&MM), Technical Services (TS) and they operate from Kolkata.

## **Ordnance Factories**

- Ammunition Factory Khadki (AFK)
- Cordite Factory Aruvankadu (CFA)
- Engine Factory Avadi (EFA)
- Field Gun Factory Kanpur (FGK)
- Gun Carriage Factory Jabalpur (GCF)
- Grey Iron Foundry (GIF)
- Gun and Shell Factory (GSF)
- Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project (HAPP)
- High Explosive Factory (HEF)
- Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF)
- Machine Tool Prototype Factory (MPF)
- Metal and Steel Factory (MSF)
- Ordnance Clothing Factory Avadi (OCFAV)
- Ordnance Cable Factory Chandigarh (OCFC)
- Ordnance Clothing Factory Shahjahanpur (OCFS)
- Ordnance Equipment Factory Kanpur (OEFC)
- Ordnance Equipment Factory Hazratpur (OEFHZ)
- Ordnance Factory Ambernath (OFA)
- Ordnance Factory Ambajhari (OFAJ)
- Ordnance Factory Bhandara (OFBA)
- Ordnance Factory Bhusawal (OFBH)
- Ordnance Factory Bolangir (OFBOL)
- Ordnance Factory Kanpur (OFC)
- Ordnance Factory Chandrapur (OFCH)
- Ordnance Factory Dumdum (OFDC)
- Ordnance Factory Dehu Road (OFDR)
- Ordnance Factory Dehradun (OFDUN)
- Ordnance Factory Itarsi (OFI)
- Ordnance Factory Khamaria (OFK)
- Ordnance Factory Katni (OFKAT)
- Ordnance Factory Muradnagar (OFM)
- Ordnance Factory Project Nalanda (OFN)
- Ordnance Factory Project Korwa (OFPKR)
- Ordnance Factory Project Medak (OFPM)
- Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli (OFT)
- Ordnance Factory Varangaon (OFV)
- Opto Electronics Factory (OLF)
- Ordnance Parachute Factory (OPF)
- Rifle Factory Ishapore (RFI)
- Small Arms Factory (SAF)
- Vehicle Factory Jabalpur (VFJ)

Each factory is headed by a General Manager (equivalent to Additional Secretary, Government of India). The factories, mostly situated in remote areas, stretch from hundreds to a few thousand acres of land<sup>[16][17][18][19]</sup> and are all essentially self-sufficient townships having their own residential bungalows, quarters, schools, hospitals, water pump houses, treatment plants and storage tanks, electrical sub-stations, post offices, telephone exchanges, banks, ATMs, transport facilities, general stores, shopping complexes, grocery shops, utility shops, canteens, places of worship, family welfare centres, inspection bungalows, guest houses, community halls, mess, clubs, parks, sports and recreational facilities.<sup>[20][21][22]</sup>

OFB provides twenty-five factory hospitals, thirty-nine factory health clinics, sixty-eight estate health clinics and seventeen family welfare centres. With most of the factories located in areas away from city and town centres, the education of the children of their employees has been a major problem. To address this, the Board today runs twenty-four schools, including eleven high schools, six higher secondary schools, and the rest are primary schools, and thirty-four Kendriya Vidyalayas (Central Schools). Sporting infrastructure is maintained by the Sports Control Board, which also organises sporting events and tournaments.

### **Training Institutes**

- National Academy of Defence Production, Nagpur<sup>[23]</sup>
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Ambajhari (OFILAJ)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Ambarnath (OFILAM)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Avadi (OFILAV)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Dehradun (OFILDD)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Ishapore (OFILIS)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Khamaria (OFILKH)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Kanpur (OFILKN)
- Ordnance Factories Institute of Learning Medak (OFILMK)

Each institute is headed by a Principal Director. NADP provides training to Group "A" officers whilst the other eight institutes impart training to Group "B" & Group "C" officers of the ordnance factories. Each institute has its own teaching complex housing the library, lecture halls, labs, hostels, mess, sports and recreational facilities. These institutes provide training to the employees on the topics of engineering, management, production, human relations, computer skills, organisational behaviour, CNC operation, personal and environmental safety, provide knowledge of Government rules and regulations as short term, induction, refresher and re-orientation courses.

### **Regional Marketing Centres**

- Regional Marketing Centre Avadi (RMCAV)
- Regional Marketing Centre Delhi (RMCDL)
- Regional Marketing Centre Pune (RMCPU)

Each regional marketing centre is headed by a Regional Director.

### **Regional Controllerates of Safety**

- Regional Controllerate of Safety Ambajhari (RCSAJ)
- Regional Controllerate of Safety Avadi (RCSAV)
- Regional Controllerate of Safety Kanpur (RCSKN)
- Regional Controllerate of Safety Pune (RCSPU)

Each regional controllerate of safety is headed by a Regional Controller of Safety.

## Indian Ordnance Factories Service (IOFS)

IOFS is a multi-disciplinary composite cadre consisting of technical - Engineers (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Electronics), Technologists (Chemical, Metallurgical, Textile, Leather) and non technical (Science, Law, Commerce, Management and Arts streams). Technical posts comprise about 87% of the total cadre. IOFS officers are group "A" Defence civilian officers under the Ministry of Defence. They are responsible for the management of ordnance factories, which provide the sinews of self-reliant, indigenous, defence production capabilities of the nation.

### Recruitment

The recruitment in the Ordnance Factories as a Group "A" officer is done by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) based on the performance in the rigorous and prestigious Engineering Services Examination (ESE) and the Civil Services Examination (CSE).<sup>[24]</sup> Engineering posts are filled through the Engineering Services Examination and technologists are selected through interview by UPSC. Posts in the non technical streams are filled through the Civil Services Examination held by UPSC. All appointments to the IOFS are made by the President of India.

### Hierarchy (Group "A")

Grade	Designation in the field	Designation in Headquarters
Junior Time Scale	Assistant Works Manager	Assistant Director
Senior Time Scale	Works Manager	Deputy Director
Senior Time Scale (Non Functional)	Deputy General Manager	Joint Director
Junior Administrative Grade (Functional)	Joint General Manager	Director
Senior Administrative Grade	Addl. GM / General Manager	Deputy Director General
Higher Administrative Grade	Senior General Manager	Senior Deputy Director General
Higher Administrative Grade (+)	Nil	Addl. Director General & Member of the Board
Apex Scale	Nil	DGOF & Chairman of the Board <sup>[25]</sup>

## Products

The type of ordnance material produced is very diverse, ranging from various small arms to rockets, bombs, grenades, military vehicles, armoured vehicles, chemicals, optical devices, parachutes, mortars, artillery pieces plus all associated ammunition, propellants, explosives and fuzes.<sup>[26]</sup>

### Products available to civilians

Civilians are required to hold Arms License (issued only for non-prohibited bore category weapons) in order to buy firearms in India. The following products of the Indian Ordnance Factories Board are available for civilians:

### Arms

- IOF .22 revolver
- IOF .32 revolver (7.65 mm X 23)
- IOF .32 Pistol Ashani
- IOF .22 Sporting Rifle
- IOF .315 Sporting Rifle
- IOF .30-06 Sporting Rifle

### Ammunition

- Cartridge Rimfire .22" Ball
- Cartridge SA .32" Revolver
- Cartridge SA .315" and 30 06 Ball
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 70mm
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 65mm Special

### Products not available to civilians

These products are exclusively manufactured for use by the armed forces and are not sold to the civilians.

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.32 Revolver



Modern Sub Machine Carbine (MSMC)



Sub-Machine Gun Carbine 9 mm 1A1



Indian sailor simulating a hostage scenario, 2009.



INSAS Rifle with newly adapted black furniture



Kalantak Micro Assault Rifle 5.56mm



INSAS Assault Rifle



INSAS Light Machine Gun





84 mm RCL gun MK II



Pinaka rockets manufactured by OFAJ



Smerch rockets to be produced at OFAJ

### Weapons (small calibre)

- 0.22 Sporting Rifle
- 0.22 Revolver
- 0.32 Revolver
- Pistol 0.32
- 0.315 Sporting Rifle
- 30.06 Sporting Rifle
- 12 Bore Pump Action Gun
- Pistol Auto 9 mm 1A
- Sub machine gun Carbine 9 mm 1A1
- Sub machine gun Carbine 9 mm 2A1
- 5.56 mm Assault Rifle (Fixed Butt)
- 5.56 mm INSAS Rifle (Fixed Butt)
- 5.56 mm INSAS Rifle (Foldable Butt)
- 5.56 mm EXCALIBUR Rifle
- 5.56 mm KALANTAK Micro Assault Rifle
- AMOGH 5.56 X 30 mm Carbine
- LMG 5.56 mm INSAS (Fixed Butt)



Indian Army's artillery gun

- LMG 5.56 mm INSAS (Foldable Butt)
- Rifle 7.62 mm 1A1
- Gun Machine 7.62 mm 1B
- Gun Machine 7.62 mm (MAG) 2A1
- Gun Machine 7.62 mm (MAG) 6A
- Assault Rifle 7.62 mm
- 12.7 mm Anti-Aircraft Gun
- Projector Pyrotechnic Hand, 13mm, 1A
- Cartridge SA 5.56 mm Ball INSAS
- Cartridge SA 5.56 mm Tracer INSAS
- Cartridge 5.56 mm Ball Mk N NATO
- Cartridge 5.56 mm Ball Mk M NATO
- Cartridge SA 7.62 mm Ball M80
- Cartridge SA 7.62 mm Tracer M62
- Cartridge SA 7.62 mm Blank L.A.
- Cartridge SA 7.62 mm Marksman
- Cartridge SA 7.62 mm A7 MK-II
- Cartridge SA 9 mm Ball
- Cartridge SA 9 mm Tracer .840 CAP
- Cartridge SA .303 Ball MK 7Z
- Cartridge SA .50 Spotter Tracer
- Cartridge SA .380 Ball Revolver
- Cartridge rimfire .22 Ball
- Cartridge SA .32 Revolver
- Cartridge SA .455 Revolver
- Cartridge SA .315 IN and 30 06 Ball
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore Anti Riot
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 65 mm Plastic Special
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 65 mm PAPER Special
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 65 mm Plastic Deluxe
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 70 mm Plastic Astram
- Cartridge SA 12 Bore 70 mm Plastic Magna
- Cartridge SA 12.7 mm API and APIT

#### Weapons (medium calibre)

- 14.5 mm Artillery Trainer
- 14.5 mm Sub Calibre Device
- 23 mm Ghasha Aviation Gun
- Equipment 40 mm L70 Gun AAE1
- Equipment 40mm L-70 Upgraded Gun
- Anti Material Rifle Vidhwansak
- Multi Grenade Launcher 40 mm
- Under Barrel Grenade Launcher 40 mm
- CRN 91 Naval Gun
- AK 630 Gun
- Cartridge 14.5 mm Training Ammunition
- Cartridge 14.5 mm API



Matang was completely developed and manufactured by VFJ



Stallion manufactured by VFJ



Jonga was manufactured by VFJ until 1999



Tipper variant of Shaktiman truck completely developed by VFJ

- Cartridge 14.5 mm APIT
- Cartridge 23 mm Schilka HE/IT
- Cartridge 23 mm Schilka AP/IT
- Cartridge 23 mm Ghasha HEI
- Cartridge 23 mm Ghasha AP I
- 30 mm BMP II Ammunition HE/T
- 30 mm BMP II Ammunition AP/T
- 30 mm BMP II Ammunition HE/I
- Cartridge. 30 mm Naval Ammunition
- Cartridge 30 mm ADEN Gun Practice MK2Z
- Cartridge 30 mm ADEN Gun HE MK 2Z
- Cartridge 30 mm Ghasha HE / Inert
- Cartridge QF 40 mm L-70 HE
- Cartridge QF 40 mm L/70 TPT
- Cartridge AA 40 mm L-70 PFFC

### Weapons (large calibre)

- 84mm RCL gun MK II
- 84 mm RCL gun MK III
- Equipment 106 mm RCL gun
- Equipment 105 mm IFG E1 ad 105 mm LFG E2
- Metamorphosis 155 mm gun
- Kavach launcher
- 84 mm TPT 65
- 84 mm HE 441B
- 84 mm HEAT 651
- 84 mm illuminating 545
- Cartridge 105 mm IFG normal charge
- Cartridge 105 mm IFG super charge
- Shell 105 mm IFG HE
- Shell 105 mm IFG HESH
- Shell 105 mm IFG ILLG
- Shell 105 mm IFG BE SMOKE
- Cartridge QF 76.2 mm practice and HE
- Cartridge 76.2 mm PFHE
- Cartridge 76/62 MM practice AA flash
- Cartridge QF 105 mm SH practice
- Cartridge 105 mm FSAPDS/T
- Cartridge 105 mm tank HESH
- Cartridge QF 105 MM APDS/T
- Cartridge QF 105 MM DS/T practice
- ROUND 106 mm RCL HEAT
- Shell 73 mm HE
- Shell 73mm HEAT
- Main battle tank ammunition 120 mm HESH
- Main battle tank ammunition 120 MM FSAPDS
- Shell 125 mm HE



VFJ LPTA 713



Bhishma's engine at Engine Factory Avadi



Vijayanta MBT was India's first indigenous tank built by HVF



Ajeya of the Indian Army built by HVF



- Shell 125 mm HEAT
- Cartridge 125 mm FSAPDS
- Shell 130 mm HE
- Cartridge FVC RVC FOR 130 mm HE
- 155 mm shell HE 107
- 155 mm shell HE M 77B
- 155 mm shell HEER
- 155 mm shell smoke ER 24KM
- Shell 155 mm illuminating MIRA
- Shell 155 mm HE
- Shell 155 MM illuminating ERFB
- Shell 155 MM screening smoke BE M2A2
- 155 mm HE ERFB BB
- 155 mm HE ERFB BT
- Cartridge 125 MM FSAPDS T MK1
- 155 mm HE-ER base bleed projectile

### Mortar Equipment

- Equipment 51 mm Mortar
- Equipment 81 mm Mortar
- Equipment 120 mm Mortar
- Equipment 81 mm Long Range Mortar
- Bomb M.L. 2" Mortar HE
- Bomb ML Smoke 2" Mortar
- Bomb ML Mortar 2" ILLG
- Bomb ML 2" Mortar Signal Single Star
- Mortar Bomb 51 mm HE
- Mortar Bomb 51 mm Smoke 1A
- Mortar Bomb 51 mm ILLG 1A
- Mortar Bomb 51 mm ILLG Red Green
- Bomb 81 mm Mortar HE
- Bomb 81 mm Mortar Smoke PWP
- Bomb 81 mm Mortar Illuminating 2A
- Bomb Mortar 120 mm HE
- Bomb Mortar 120 mm Smoke PWP
- Bomb Mortar 120 mm ILLG IA
- 81 mm Mortar Training device
- 120 mm Mortar Training device

### Grenades, signalling smoke, other stores

- Cartridge Signal 16mm Red Green White
- Cartridge Signal 1" Red Green Illg.
- Cartridge Signal 1.5" Green Red Yellow
- Grenade 36 M Hand And Tube Launching
- 81mm Smoke Grenade 3D6 For T-72
- Candle Smoke Ground Mk 300,000
- Training Smoke Generator



Arjun MBT manufactured by HVF Avadi



Bhishma of the Indian Army built at HVF Avadi



Sarath built at Ordnance Factory Medak



Namica (NAG Missile Carrier) with NAG Anti Tank Guided Missile

- Generator Smoke No.5
- Grenade Handsmoke Red Green
- Marker Smoke White
- Generator Smoke Orange 3a
- CSES Grenade Red Green Yellow
- Flare Ground Indicating No. Mk-1 Yellow
- Port Fire Friction
- Signal Distress Day And Night
- Cartridge Seat Ejection Pk 3m 1
- Cartridge R-4 Pyro Cutter
- Flare Trip Wire Mk-1
- Signal Fuze
- Signal Fog
- Hand Flare Red Mk- II
- Para Flare Red
- Buoyant Smoke Orange
- Thunder Flash Mk - 4
- Multi Mode Hand Grenade

### Rockets and bombs

- Rocket 68 mm HE
- Rocket 68 mm HC
- Pinaka Rockets
- Smerch Rockets<sup>[27]</sup>
- Rocket 68 mm Practice
- Bomb HE 1000 lbs
- Bomb Practice 25 lbs No. 1 MK-1
- Bomb 3 kg Practice
- Bomb 250 kg HSLD Bomb
- Bomb 450 kg HSLD Bomb
- Aerial Bomb 100 -120 KG
- Aerial Bomb 100 -120 KG Inert

### Fuzes

- Fuze FZ 104
- Fuze 213 MK5 (M-1) & (M-2) and (M-3) & (M-4)
- Fuze L 29 A2/A3
- Fuze Percussion DA NO.117
- Fuze for rocket 122 mm HE
- Proximity Fuze 76.2
- Fuze DA- 5A
- Fuze 162 MK-8 and Fuze 162 MK - 9
- Fuze 161 MK 3 M-1
- Fuze PD M 572 FOR 155 mm



Akash Missile Launcher on Sarath platform



Indian Army Dhruv's armament



IAF Hind Akbar's armament such as Gsh-30k gun and loadable bombs



Mirage 2000's armaments and parachutes

### Demolition

- Charge Demolition No.2, 25 lbs
- Charge Demolition No.11, 30 lbs
- Charge Demolition No.14, 11 lbs
- Charge Demolition No.1 Beehive
- Mine Anti-Tank 4D ND (Bar)
- Switch No.4 Pull MK 1
- Switch No.5 Pressure MK 1
- Switch No.6 Release MK 1
- **Maindeka** Advanced Limpet Mine<sup>[28]</sup>

### Military vehicles

- 5/7.5 Ton Stallion Mk-III BS-II
- 2.5 Ton LPTA 713/32 TC BS-II
- Water Bowser 2 KL on LPTA
- Water Bowser 5 KL on Stallion
- Kitchen Container on Stallion
- Field Ambulance on Stallion
- Light Recovery Vehicle (LRV)
- Field Artillery Tractor (FAT)
- 5 KL Fuel Tanker on Stallion
- 2 KL Fuel Tanker on LPTA



IAF Su-30MKI's armaments, parachutes for pilot's seat and aircraft brake



Tejas uses armaments such as 23 mm Ghasha Aviation Gun



INS Shivalik's weaponry



INS Delhi's armaments



INS Mysore's armaments such as AK-630 guns

- Battery Command Post (BCP)
- Mobile AC Generators
- Operation Theatre on wheels
- Mobile Decontamination Unit
- Tipper on Stallion
- Tipper on LPTA
- Matang
- Shaktiman
- Jonga
- Trishul
- Caravan
- Drill Rig
- Humsafar Buses (Long & Medium)
- Vaahan 1 Ton
- Fire fighting variants of Stallion and LPTA
- Bullet-proofing of Gypsy, 407, Ambassador, Prado
- **Yuktirath** - Mine Protected Vehicle

#### **Armoured vehicles**

- Vijayanta MBT
- Combat Improved Ajeya
- Arjun - Main Battle Tank
- T 90 S Bhishma Tank
- Sarath Infantry Fighting Vehicle
- Carrier Mortar Tracked Vehicle
- Engine UTD 20
- Engine V46 6
- Engine V92S2
- NBC Recce Vehicle
- Armoured Ambulance
- Armoured Vehicle Tracked Light Repair
- Armoured Amphibious Dozer (AAD)
- Armoured Engineer Reconnaissance Vehicle (AERV)
- NBC Reconnaissance Vehicle (NBCRV)
- NAG Missile Carrier (NAMICA)
- Trishul Missile Launcher
- AKASH - Surface-to-Air Missile Launcher

- RAJENDRA Radar Armoured Carrier
- BMP-2 UGV
- 105MM Self-Propelled Gun on SARATH Platform
- Catapult SPA
- Kartik AVLB
- Vijayanta ARV
- CEASE - Canal Embankment Assault Equipment
- Vijayanta GBT 155 Turret

**Optical devices**

- Compass prismatic liquid MK-3A
- Sight unit cased 102 B
- Passive night vision goggles 102A
- Bino night vision passive cased 101A
- Passive night vision binocular light Wt
- Passive night vision monocular
- Passive night sight for rifle and LMG
- Passive night sight for 84 mm RCLII
- Periscope battery command bino 20 X 70
- Telescopic sight for 5.56 mm rifle
- Telescope sight for 5.56 mm LMG
- Telescopic sight 6X for sniper rifle
- Telescopic sight (M-1) for 84 mm RCL
- Passive night sight for AK-47
- Optical sight for AGS-30
- Telescopic sight foR 14.5 20 mm AMR
- Driver's passive night periscope for T-55
- Binocular 8 X 30
- HR binocular
- Telescopic sight 84 mm RCL III
- Sight dial 104A with mount
- SIGHT 51 MM MORTAR 102A
- Range finder cased 13 E
- Collimator infinity aiming reference 102A
- Collimator K-1
- Periscopic aiming circle (PAB-2M)
- Sight bore muzzle AFV-125 MM cased
- Laser range finder TPD-K1 for T-72
- Commander's sight passive for T-72 BMP-II
- Driver's sight passive for tank T-72
- Driver's sight passive for BMP-II
- Driver's sight passive for T-90 S
- Gunner's sight passive for T-72
- Gunner's sight passive for BMP-II
- Gunner's sight IG46 for T-90 S
- Commander's sight TKN -4S for T-90 S
- Thermal sight TI -ESSA for T-90 S



- Commander's thermal sight TI for T72
- Anti aircraft sight IP3 3 for BMP-II
- Missile sight 9sh 119M1 for BMP-II
- Laser aiming aid Insa Lakshya for rifle
- Red dot sight

### **Parachutes**

- Brake Parachutes for MiG-21, MiG-23, MiG-25, MiG-29, Mirage 2000, Jaguar and Su-30 MKI
- Parachute Paratroop type PTR-M
- Parachute Tactical assault type PTA-M
- Parachute Tactical assault type PTA-R
- Parasail
- Ram Air 9 cell free fall parachute
- Parachute system for Mortar bomb 81 mm Illuminating and other ammunition
- Pilot Parachute Seat MK-10
- High Altitude Parachute
- Pilot Parachute BMK-41
- Heavy drop system P-7
- Cargo aerial delivery parachute 8.5 M

### **Support equipment**

- Inflatable boat **Prashant** 465 Mk-2
- Boat recce 3 Men - 2A
- Float for KM bridge
- Bridge assault floating (Kruppman)
- Manually launched assault bridge MLAB MLC-60
- Cables
- Fibre Optic Cable
- Co-axial Cable

### **Troop comfort and general stores**

- Tent Arctic medium MK 2
  - Tent Arctic large MK-2
  - Parachute paratroop type PTR-R
  - Tent 80 kg MK-3
  - Tent 20 kg inner and outer
  - Tent PVT MK3
  - Tent store
  - Tent extendable frame supported 4M
  - Tent Arctic Small Mk 2
  - Tank fabric collapsible MK-1
  - Cover waterproof
  - Steel jerricans capacity 20 litres
  - Heater space (coal/oil burning)
  - Chagul universal MK-II
  - Boot ankle direct vulcanised sole
  - High ankle boot DVS
-

- Boot antimine MK-1
- Dual density rubber combat boot
- High ankle boot for paratroopers
- Suit terry wool (jacket & trousers)
- Overall combination disruptive
- Overall combination OG
- Coat combat disruptive
- Jacket & trouser combat disruptive
- Overall combination
- Overall flying MK-II
- Overall winter
- Coat and trousers parka
- Coat feather & pant feather
- Jersey woollen OG V-neck
- Shirt Angola drab & trouser serge
- Gents and ladies jacket
- Gloves leather white lined
- Sleeping bag MK-4
- Lightweight web equipment
- ICK synthetic belt waist OG
- Infantry combat kit haversack
- Infantry combat kit pack with frame
- Infantry combat kit pouches ammunition
- Web Equipment G.I. Pattern
- Jacket ECC & trouser ECC
- Coat E.C.C
- Suit Yeti
- Bulletproof jacket
- Capes waterproof khaki with hood
- Multiple element net assembly
- Vest and jersey woollen OG
- Blanket
- Socks woollen Lycra
- NBC suit permeable
- NBC casualty bag full
- NBC casualty bag half
- NBC Facelet
- NBC Haversack
- Trouser and shirt polyester and viscose OG
- Gaiters glacier
- Fuel efficient Ayudh Bukhari
- Bag kit disruptive waterproof with stroler

**Material components and SPM's**

- Material (non ferrous & heavy alloys)
- Material (ferrous)
- Components (non ferrous & heavy alloys)
- Components (ferrous)
- Case gauging machine
- Case gauging and sorting machine
- Cartridge gauging weighing sorting machine
- Cup gauging and sorting machine
- Magazine loading machine
- Bullet gauging weighing sorting machine
- Case loading assembling gauging weighing machine
- Winding machine

**Chemicals**

- IPN (isopropyl nitrate)
- Nitrocellulose (NC)
- Industrial NC Ethanol Wet and Butanol Wet
- Blasting Soluble NC (BSNC)
- NC Pyro
- NC Type 'A' & Type 'H'
- Nitroguanidine (Picrite)
- Styphnic Acid

**Explosives**

- Cord Detonating 'A'
- PEK-1 (Plastic Explosives)
- TNT slab 500 g MK-2 A/L with integral CE primer
- TNT (trinitrotoluene)
- Dinitrotoluene (DNT)
- Hexanitrostilbene (HNS)
- RDX/TNT – 60 : 40
- RDX/WAX 88 : 12
- Tetryl/graphited tetryl (composition exploding)
- Demolition Explosive

**Propellants**

- Nitrocellulose propellant for cartridges
  - Propellants for sporting
  - Ball powder propellant for 7.62 mm & 5.56 mm cartridges
  - NC-NG based rocket propellants
  - NC & NG Double base Ballistite propellants
-

## Customers

### Armed Forces

The prime customers of Indian Ordnance Factories are the Indian Armed Forces viz. Indian Army, Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Air Force.<sup>[29][30]</sup> Apart from supplying armaments to the Armed Forces, Ordnance Factories also meet the requirements of other customers viz. the Central Armed Police Forces, State Armed Police Forces, Paramilitary Forces of India and the Special Forces of India in respect of arms, ammunition, clothing, bullet proof vehicles, mine protected vehicles etc.<sup>[31][32]</sup>

### Civil Trade

Customers in the civil sector - central / state government organisation and departments such as Indian Railways, Indian Space Research Organisation, Defence Research and Development Organisation, Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Aeronautical Development Agency, Department of Telecommunications, various State Electricity Boards.<sup>[33][34][35][36]</sup> PSUs such as HMT Limited, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Bharat Dynamics Limited,<sup>[37]</sup> private companies and individuals etc. who purchase industrial chemicals, explosives, arms, ammunition, brass ingots, aluminium alloy products for aircraft, steel castings and forgings, vehicles, clothing and leather goods, cables and opto-electronic instruments.<sup>□</sup>

### Exports

Arms and Ammunition, Weapon Spares, Chemicals & Explosives, Parachutes, Leather and Clothing items are being exported to more than 30 countries world-wide.

- Asia - Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Vietnam, Nepal, Singapore.
- Europe - Germany, Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Turkey, Russia, Sweden, France, Switzerland, UK.
- Middle East - Oman, Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE.
- Africa - Kenya, Botswana, Nigeria.
- North and Latin America -USA, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Suriname.<sup>□[38][39][40]</sup>

## Criticism

Despite of highly skilled manpower, latest technologies and huge investments, the Ordnance Factories and their management have often been criticised for their inefficiency,<sup>[41]</sup> delay in supplies,<sup>[42][43][44]</sup> obsolete and substandard products of much higher costs than those manufactured by their foreign competitors,<sup>[45]</sup> corruption at all levels including top management<sup>[46][47][48][49][50][51][52][53][54]</sup> and a small volume of exports. The ministerial and bureaucratic hassles, lack of decision making and accountability of the people concerned are often blamed. To counter the above, talks were held in the past to privatise the Ordnance Factories<sup>[55][56]</sup> after witnessing the turnaround of other Indian companies which were converted into PSUs, but the Ministry of Defence has always ruled out such a possibility<sup>[57][58]</sup> since the Ordnance Factories are the backbone of the Indian Armed Forces<sup>[59][60]</sup> and should be controlled solely by the Government of India. Efforts are now being made by the Ordnance Factories to run the factories at their full capacities, employ and train skilled manpower, efficient usage of the available resources, update and induct new products, provide more sophisticated products, increase and diversify product categories, supply them to the forces on time, stringent quality assurance, JV with foreign and other domestic manufacturers and to increase their overseas presence and exports.<sup>□[61][62][63][64][65][66][67][68][69][70][71]</sup>

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